

Dr Shannon May October 2023 Scam Statement

On October 17, 2024, me and my family's life was greatly altered with trauma and great financial upheaval that we will be digging out of for many years to come.

I am a Naturopathic Doctor and Acupuncturist (ND, Lac) with my clinic in Duluth, MN. I was at work seeing patients when I received a voicemail from the phone number of Carlton County Sheriff's Office. The voicemail said it was Chief Deputy Dan Danielson from Carlton County Sheriff's office and they need me to call him as soon as possible as a legal matter in regards to me came across his desk that morning. They said to call him directly at (218) 503-3873. So I looked up their Chief Deputy and it was indeed Dan Danielson. Since this added up I called.

When I called "Chief Dan Danielson" he asked if I was sitting down? My heart dropped because my husband drives through Carlton County every day on the way to his work in Moose Lake. I immediately thought something had happened to him on the highway, like an accident, and potentially worse case scenario, he was hospitalized or even dead. I told him I was sitting down and then he proceeded to tell me that there is a legal issue in the means of some felony charges on me because I failed to show up for a court hearing Monday, October 16, 2023 at 9am, as an expert witness for a federal juvenile case (potentially one of my patients, they could not get me that information at that time) with the Honorable Judge Schiltz. I checked online and saw the Honorable Judge Schiltz was indeed a U.S. District Court judge in Carlton County.

They said I was court ordered with a formal subpoena presented to me by officers September 8, 2023. I confirmed that that was my house address on September 8th (however, we moved that following week to our current residence), but that I was away since about 2pm that day as I was out of town. I did recall, however, that when talking to my daughter that evening on September 8th, that she had mentioned police stopped by asking for me. I thought that was strange, but wrote it off as maybe related to something happening in the neighborhood and were checking in with neighbors.

They proceeded to tell me that the problem is that they have a signature on the subpoena form that I signed, or potentially someone else signed, so there is proven consent of the court hearing and document received. They said if what I say is true then there may be plagiarism involved. They said if the police on that day did anything wrong then rest assured that would be addressed and proper action would be taken. At that point I was unsure if maybe the baby-sitter (17 years old) or my daughter (10 years old) had mistakenly signed something and forgot to show me the document. We were in the throws of moving and mail was being placed all over the place by my kids and the house was filled with packing boxes here and there. I could see a scenario where a document made its way into one of the boxes. At this point the story they gave me was sounding real, but I told them I never saw or encountered police and never signed a subpoena order to even know I was supposed to be at this federal court hearing with Judge Schiltz. They were empathetic about this and told me that there is a process to get this cleared up if indeed I did not sign the document.

They said they then need to discuss the citations involved with my case. The first one was Failure to Appear in Court (FTA-CV-4747). They said this stems from the signed subpoena and that not appearing in court. They said the second one was Contempt of Court (COC-V-5740). They also explained that there was a third citation given by the Honorable Judge Schiltz, Avoiding Civil Duty (ACD) (missing court appearance pertaining to my profession), which is a Class 6 felony and the Civil Surety bond posted by the Honorable Judge Schiltz.

They went on to tell me there are two procedures that I can consider to rectify this matter and would explain both of them. The first procedure would be a civil process. The civil process has two orders placed. The first order is a Suppression Order (eg. Gag order). They said it's similar to HIPPA, and it's restricting information

being made public or being passed onto any unauthorized third party. They said because this is an ongoing federal trial that I have delayed, this order has been put in place at this point. They said it is okay to tell others that a work related issue has come up and you're working on it and that I can let them know once it's been completed. The second order put in place has been a Make and Maintain Contact Order and that I must maintain continued contact at all times. They said if a call dropped or loss mobile monitoring it would need to be immediately re-established. They said with this first process, the civil process, they would get me to the signature verification process at Carlton County Sheriff's office and compare signature with a professional signature analyst they have on site that is 99.9% accurate. They would fingerprint me as well, show me the case file, and at that point I could also request body cams from the police officers that day to see if it was not me who signed, then see who then plagiarized my name.

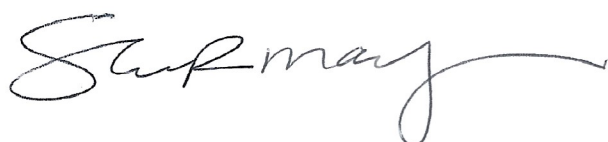
The second procedure as an option would be to disconnect this call at any time and seek legal course and then he'd need to go through that attorney. I would then need to turn myself in and would be put in custody for at least 72 hours.

This was the point where since everything they said had added up, I placed this whole situation as REAL in my mind and that I needed to get to the other side of this as quickly and smoothly as possible. This involved getting the surety bonds paid so that I could freely enter the Carlton County Sheriff's Office and meet with the signature analyst to prove that wasn't my signature and essentially prove my freedom. They had told me at that point when I prove my innocence I would immediately get the surety bonds returned to me from the US Dept of Treasury. Over the next two days I spent my time trying to collect these monies and sending it through these CoinMe Coinstar kiosks (FDIC approved 3rd party retailer to the US Department of Treasury's Account).

At the end of the day, I felt figuratively held hostage for 48hrs with what I thought was Carlton County and the Federal Government collecting my ransom (surety bonds) for over \$80,000 and on a sort of house arrest that whole time maintaining an open line connection on my phone to keep me and my family's safety and freedom. At the end of the day it was a very well orchestrated professional scam. My sister and brother-in-law drove from over 2 hours away to help pay for a portion of it as well.

What we would like to see is more legislative support around these Coinme CoinStar kiosks. Since they are new and support cryptocurrency there is not a lot of regulation around them. For instance, as people are continuing to get scammed (we recently heard on MPR that these scammers have reached earnings in the billions – on MPR the week of March 4th, 2024) if there was at a minimum of a 48 hour hold on those funds, that would be enough time for so many of these scams to get "saved" financially. Also, we have tried to reach out to the CEO of these Coinme CoinStar kiosks to make them aware of what is going on but to date they have not returned any of our calls. Our understanding, looking into these kiosks, is that they have 11% interest gains on these transactions. That means that this company earned over \$8,000 from just our one scam. Ultimately, they currently do not have incentive to change how these kiosks are being used in scams when they have a financial gain with each scammed transaction.

In conclusion, we do not want to see these scams affect other families the way it has negatively impacted ours. We feel we are speaking for ourselves and all those who have been and may still be affected by these type of scams that we appreciate any and all support and ideas you have around legislation involving these kiosks and scams today.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stef May". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.