



TIM KIMREY, JAIL ADMINISTRATOR
201 North Shartel Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102 |

JIM HOLMAN, CHAIRMAN-OCCJA
405-504-6829 | okcountydc.net

Oklahoma County Detention Center is warning families and loved ones about an active scam targeting people trying to bond someone out of jail. Scammers are posing as bail bondsmen or service agencies and demanding large cash payments, often before the person has even finished the booking process.

What the scam looks like

You receive a call or text from someone claiming to be a bondsman or from an organization like a “hub” or “program” saying they can get your loved one out right away for a fee.

The scammer contacts you first, sometimes while your loved one is still in booking, which is not how legitimate bondsmen usually operate.

They ask you to pay the full bond amount or several thousand dollars through cash apps, wire, or other hard-to-trace methods.

After you pay, your loved one is still in custody and the scammer disappears.

Key red flags

The “bondsman” calls you out of the blue instead of you contacting them.

They claim to be from a nonprofit service but ask for money; legitimate nonprofits like Diversion Hub do not take payment from clients for services.

They demand the entire bond amount in cash or electronic transfer; licensed bond agencies typically charge around ten percent of the bond, not 100 percent.

They refuse to show or send proof of their bondsman license, state ID, or credentials.

How to protect yourself

If someone calls claiming they can bond out your loved one, hang up and independently look up a licensed bail bond company of your choice.

Always ask to see a bail bonds license, CLEET license, state ID, and proof they work for the company they claim.

Do not send money through cash apps, gift cards, or wire transfers to someone you have not verified.

If something feels rushed, pushy, or “too good to be true,” stop and verify directly with the detention center or a known, licensed bondsman.

If you think you’ve been scammed

Contact your local law enforcement agency and make a report as soon as possible.

Notify the Oklahoma County Detention Center so details can be shared with investigators.

Keep all call logs, texts, receipts, and screenshots related to the transaction.

The Oklahoma County Detention Center is cooperating with law enforcement to investigate these scams and protect families from being exploited during an already stressful time.