



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Kentuckians Warned of Continued Text Message Scam Posing as State Agency**

*Guidance offered to avoid disclosing sensitive information*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 18, 2025)** – The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) warns Kentuckians of continual reports of fraudulent text messages received by residents impersonating the state agency, which feature a suspicious link similar to Kentucky government website addresses.

The scam messages warn customers of unpaid traffic tickets, say a "DMV violation" will be reported, and that "driving privileges" will be suspended if payment is not sent immediately.

The Cabinet is taking appropriate steps to request the fraudulent websites be taken down. Kentuckians are encouraged to follow the tips and recommendations below to avoid disclosing sensitive information to scammers.

### **Tips To Spot a Scam Text**

- KYTC does not collect traffic ticket fees or notify customers of violations using text messages.
- We do not refer to ourselves as "KDOT" or a "DMV" in official communications. Be cautious of messages using these terms—they are not from us.
- Our official website for motor vehicle and driver services is [drive.ky.gov](https://drive.ky.gov). Beware of fraudulent websites that mimic this address—scammers often add subtle changes, like a hyphen, to trick you.

### **Steps If You Receive a Fraudulent Text**

- Do not click the link.

- When in doubt, reach out to the agency to confirm authenticity before taking any action.
- If you have provided any personal information, contact your bank immediately.
- You can also report this to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at [ic3.gov](https://ic3.gov), or to the Federal Trade Commission at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov), or visit the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General website, [ag.ky.gov](https://ag.ky.gov), to follow their guidance concerning potential identity theft.
- Forward the suspicious message to 7726 (SPAM) to alert your mobile provider as well.

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