



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **St. Charles County Government**

**Department of Community Health and the Environment**

*Gil Copley, Director*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT WARNS OF POSSIBLE SCAM**

*Local Alerts on Phony Inspectors Are Similar to Complaints in Iowa, Washington*

**St. Charles County, Missouri** – The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment urges food establishments to be wary of an individual or group of individuals who appear to be posing as a health inspector completing routine investigations. In addition to the three St. Charles County restaurants who alerted the department, similar complaints have been received from health departments in Iowa and Washington. These incidents have all involved an individual claiming to be a health inspector that requests access to the establishment and information about the staff.

“All health inspectors carry proper photo identification signifying their relationship with the department during their examinations,” said Gil Copley, Director of the St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment. “Whenever there is a doubt, food facilities should be diligent in asking for proper identification from anyone representing themselves as a county inspector.”

Food establishment operators — who are contacted by a health inspector that cannot provide proper identification or who requests personal information about staff members — should contact the St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment at 636-949-1800.

“We are proud of the relationships we’ve developed with the many fine food-service facilities throughout this County,” Copley said. “Our health inspectors provide a great service to the people and businesses of St. Charles County and strive to present themselves in a professional manner throughout their inspections. We hope that business owners in this community will be proactive in protecting their employees and will help us in stopping this fraudulent activity.”

The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment is committed to the protection and enhancement of health and the quality of life for all members of our community. For more information, call (636) 949-7400 or visit [www.scchealth.org](http://www.scchealth.org).

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