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American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

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SSA Imposter Scams: Important Information to Share with Your Customers

We are providing this information to members on behalf of the U.S. Social Security Administration to share with your customers. You can help SSA and others by spreading the word through all your communications channels. For example, you can:

- Display SSA's slide presentation in your waiting areas or other areas with high traffic. The slide presentation is available at the bottom of Social Security's Scam Awareness Materials webpage for you to download.
- Encourage any customer who has been contacted by an imposter to report the event to oig.ssa.gov.

Together, we can stop these scammers and protect the public we serve.

Do you know how to spot a government imposter scam? Knowing how to identify potential scammers will help safeguard your personal information.

There are common elements to many of these scams. Scammers often exploit fears and threaten you with arrest or legal action.

Scammers also pose as Social Security or other government employees and claim there's a problem with your Social Security number (SSN) or your benefits. They may even claim your SSN is linked to a crime.

When you identify a potential scammer:

- Hang up right away or ignore the message.
- Never give personal information or money.
- Report the scam immediately to our <u>Office of the Inspector General</u>.

If you owe money to Social Security, we'll mail you a letter with payment options and appeal rights. We only accept payments electronically through Pay.gov, Online Bill Pay, or physically by check or money order through our offices.

We will never do the following:

- Threaten you with arrest or legal action because you don't agree to pay us money immediately.
- Promise a benefit increase in exchange for money.
- Ask you to send us gift cards, prepaid debit cards, wire transfers, internet currency, cryptocurrency, or cash through the U.S. mail.

Scammers continue to evolve and find new ways to steal your money and personal information. Please stay vigilant and help raise awareness about Social Security-related scams and other government imposter scams. For more information on scams, please visit our <u>Protect Yourself from Scams page</u>.

Tell your friends and family about government imposter scams. Let them know they don't have to be embarrassed to report

if they shared personal financial information or suffered a financial loss. The important thing is to report the scam right away.















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