



KERN COUNTY ELDER NEWS

Kern County DEAR/EDRT TEAM

(Dependent/Elder Abuse Review) Team/EDRT (Elder Death Review Team)



Monthly Information Article

January 2023



Social Security Fraud

Agency Partners

Bakersfield Police Department

California Dept. of Insurance

CSUB



Dept. of Social Services Licensing

GBLA

Independent Living Center of KC

Kaiser Permanente

Kern Co. Aging & Adult Services

Kern Co. BHRS



Kern Co. Coroner

Kern Co. District Attorney

Kern Co. DA Victim Services

Kern Co. Family Law Facilitator

Kern Co. Public Health

Kern Regional Center

Kern Co. Sheriff's Office

Kern Co. Veteran Services

Social Security Administration

Strata Credit Union



SCAM ALERT



Securing today
and tomorrow

The Social Security Administration will never threaten, scare, or pressure you to take an immediate action.



If you receive a call, text, or email that...

- Threatens to **suspend your Social Security number**, even if they have part or all of your Social Security number
- Warns of **arrest or legal action**
- Demands or requests **immediate payment**
- Requires payment by **gift card, prepaid debit card, internet currency, or by mailing cash**
- Pressures you for **personal information**
- Requests **secrecy**
- Threatens to **seize your bank account**
- Promises to **increase your Social Security benefit**
- Tries to gain your trust by providing **fake "documentation," false "evidence," or the name of a real government official**

...it is a **scam!**

Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore Them!

Protect yourself and others from Social Security-related scams

- **Try to stay calm.** Do not provide anyone with money or personal information when you feel pressured, threatened, or scared.
- **Hang up or ignore it.** If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email, hang up or do not respond. Government employees will not threaten you, demand immediate payment, or try to gain your trust by sending you pictures or documents.
- **Report Social Security-related scams.** If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email that mentions Social Security, ignore it and report it to the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Do not be embarrassed if you shared personal information or suffered a financial loss.
- **Get up-to-date information.** Follow SSA OIG on Twitter @TheSSAOIG and Facebook @SSA Office of the Inspector General for the latest information on Social Security-related scams. Visit the Federal Trade Commission for information on other government scams.
- **Spread the word.** Share your knowledge of Social Security-related scams. Post on social media using the hashtag #SlamtheScam to share your experience and warn others. Visit oig.ssa.gov/scam for more information. Please also share with your friends and family.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



Guard Your Card



Securing today
and tomorrow

Your Social Security card is *not an identification document* and, in many situations, you only need to know your Social Security number (you do not need to show the physical card).

Do You Need to Show Your Social Security Card?



Evidence for Work

Several documents can be used instead of your Social Security card. Other acceptable evidence includes:

- Birth Certificate
- Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt
- Employment Authorization Document
- Form I-94 or Form I-94A



Evidence for Department of Motor Vehicles or Driver License (REAL ID)

The only state that requires you to show your physical Social Security card is Pennsylvania. For all other states, other acceptable evidence includes:

- W-2 forms
- Non-SSA-1099 forms
- Form SSA-1099
- Pay Stubs



For Other Benefits

You should not need to show your physical Social Security card to apply for certain benefits. You can simply provide your Social Security number for benefits like:

- Housing
- Food Assistance
- Health Insurance



For Tax Purposes

You do not need your Social Security card, you only need to know your Social Security number.

SSA.gov |     

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www.ssa.gov.fraud/



Social Security

