

C.A.S.E.
Churches Against

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Fake Social Security contacts lead to theft

Beware of emails or phone calls

Wow. The Social Security Administration is calling or emailing to let me know I may be eligible for additional benefits. This must be my lucky day! *Think again*.

The Inspector General of the SSA is warning residents that scammers are actually making those calls and emails. While they may seem and look official, they are, in fact, ploys to steal your personal information. The email or caller will ask for your name, address, health information, driver's license number and even your Social Security number in order to process an application for benefits.

Really, they are looking to steal your identity to access your credit or bank accounts. Often, the scammer will use that information to create a new "My Social Security" account on the official website and divert your legitimate payments to their own bank account.

So, what should you do?



Be skeptical of an email or phone call from an "official" government agencies. They typically correspond via letter.



Verify the legitimacy of any call or email independently by calling the official agency with the phone number on the official website (For SSA, call 1-800–772-1213)



Never give personal information out over the phone.



Never click on a link or download an email attachment without verifying the legitimacy first.