LATEST SCAMS TARGETING VETERANS

BRENDA MUNSON 2023 VSO FALL CONFERENCE 10.3.2023





- SMP IS A STATEWIDE PROGRAM
- SMP MISSION
 - PREVENTING MEDICARE FRAUD
- **SMP MESSAGE**
 - PROTECT, DETECT, REPORT



WHAT IS VETERAN FRAUD

- TARGETS OF VETERAN FRAUD:
 - MILITARY VETERANS
 - RETIREES
 - ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS
 - FAMILY MEMBERS
- WHAT DO SCAMMERS WANT:
 - BANKING INFORMATION



MILITARY MEMBERS REMAIN VULNERABLE

- WHY ARE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY VULNERABLE
 - ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RESOURCES
- DOLLARS LOST TO SCAMS



8 LATEST VETERAN SCAMS IN 2023

- IMPOSTERS PRETENDING TO BE FRIENDS
- PHISHING SCAMS CALLING FROM FAKE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
- CHARGING FOR "FREE" MILITARY RECORDS
- INVESTMENT AND MILITARY PENSION FRAUD
- OFFERING "SECRET" GOVERNMENT FUNDING
- DEMANDING SECURITY DEPOSITS ON VETERAN-DISCOUNTED PROPERTIES
- POSING AS A VETERAN-FRIENDLY EMPLOYER OR SCHOOL
- TARGETING VETERANS GETTING BENEFITS UNDER THE PACT ACT

WARNING SIGNS: HOW TO SPOT VETERAN SCAMS

- UNSOLICITED CALLS FROM SOMEONE CLAIMING TO BE FROM THE VA
- PHONE CALLS FROM A PRIVATE CALLER ID OR HIDDEN PHONE NUMBER
- REFERENCES TO "SECRET" OR LITTLE-KNOWN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS
- JOB ADS FOR "PREVIOUSLY UNDISCLOSED" GOVERNMENT POSITIONS
- A SENSE OF URGENCY OR THE USE OF THREATENING LANGUAGE
- CALLS ASKING FOR CREDIT CARD NUMBERS, BANKING INFORMATION OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS
- EMAILS COMING FROM PUBLIC DOMAIN SITES INSTEAD OF .GOV EMAIL ADDRESSES

HOW TO REPORT FRAUD

- ACT QUICKLY TO ASSESS THE FULL DAMAGE
- NOTIFY BANKS, LENDERS AND CREDIT CARD COMPANIES
- SECURE ONLINE ACCOUNTS
- SET UP A FRAUD ALERT WITH THE 3 CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES
- REPORT THE FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT TO THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
- REPORT THE FRAUD TO THE ND ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE (800-472-2600)
- FILE A POLICE REPORT
- DISPUTE FRAUDULENT TRANSACTIONS



Preventing Medicare Fraud



Brenda Munson, ND SMP Project Coordinator

Phone: 1-833-818-0029 Email: <u>brenda.munson@minotstateu.edu</u>

This project was support in part by grant No. 90MPPG0021, from the Administration for Community Living, DHHS.

Points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official ACL policy.