

Consumer Alert!

From District Attorney Carol Chambers

October 12, 2011

MEDICARE SCAM ACTIVE IN AREA

Area seniors have reported receiving calls from persons purporting to be with a government agency such as Medicare or the National Medical Office. **THESE CALLS ARE SCAMS AND NO ONE SHOULD PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION TO THE CALLERS.** The instigators of these calls claim to be arranging for a new Medicare card to be sent to the senior. The callers have the names and addresses of the people they call (which are easy to obtain on the Internet). In the latest instance, the caller had the routing number of the senior's bank. What they did not have was the actual account number, and that is what they demanded. In fact when the senior refused to provide that information, the caller became hostile and claimed that a new Medicare Card would not be issued to this person and they would receive no Medicare assistance.

Again, these are scam calls! If you are already on Medicare, there is no new card being issued, you do not have to pay a fee to get it, and the government does not need your bank information. If you are enrolling in Medicare for the first time or changing your Medicare coverage, there is no fee to enroll and the government still does not need your bank account information.

If you receive one of these calls, **HANG UP!** No matter how much they seem to know about you, they are not legitimate. The longer you stay on the phone the greater your risk.

Need help? Have Questions?

Call the Consumer Protection Line

720-874-8547

