

SCAM ALERT

Scam: Hearing Aid Sales Pitches Target: All Seniors

Scam Artists look for any way to obtain your personally identifiable information. You may receive advertisements in the mail for low cost hearing aids or you may be approached in the mall or outside stores by sales people who will try to convince you of a limited time opportunity. Do not share your personal information with random sales people! Discuss your hearing issues with your medical professional. If you do need a hearing aid, it is a good idea to do some research before you purchase.

Hearing Aid Sales Pitches May be a Scam!

The Federal Trade Commission offers these suggestions to avoid this type of scam:

- 🔊 **Do not share personal information at kiosks or to sales people who approach you:** You may experience sales people stating they can get you a great deal if you provide your personal information to them immediately or they may offer to “check” your insurance to see what is covered. Do not share your information until you have done your research!
- 🔊 **Resist aggressive sales people:** Only buy when you are completely satisfied with the answers to your questions. If you feel pressured, tell them you will come back the next day and go home and do some research. Make certain the representative includes all service and maintenance guarantees in writing.
- 🔊 **Get information about the warranty:** Make certain you know what the warranty covers, what is excluded and when it expires. Also, ask if there will be copays for warranty services.
- 🔊 **Look for a reliable provider:** Recommendations from your medical professional as well as friends and relatives can assist you in choosing a provider.
- 🔊 **Research providers:** Enter the name of each potential provider into a search engine online and read the reviews of other customers.
- 🔊 **Consider the price:** Be wary of aggressive tactics that try to convince you to buy the most expensive model. Only buy what is right for you.

**If you think you may be a victim of a scam, contact
San Bernardino County Adult Protective Services (APS) at
877-565-2020 or your local police department.**