

Aging and Adult Services Public Guardian

## **COVID-19 VACCINE SURVEY SCAM**

Increased information on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine is finding its way into our homes through news on television, text messages and emails. Scam predators are using this opportunity to gain your personal information by asking you to complete a limited-time survey about the Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson and Johnson vaccine. You may be offered a free reward but need to pay the shipping in advance, or they may ask you to provide personal information to claim your free gift or to deposit it directly into your account. Legitimate surveys do not ask for your credit card or bank account information and do not ask you to pay for a free gift. This is a scam!

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Better Business Bureau (BBB) recommend the following to protect yourself from this type of scam:

- Never give your bank account, credit card or any personal information to someone who contacts you unsolicited.
- Do not click on links or open attachments; doing so could install harmful malware that steals your information.
- Always filter unwanted text messages on your phone, either through your wireless provider or with a call-blocking app.
- Remember to never contact the phone number listed in the email or text and always look it up on the company website.

**Note:** You may report scam predators to the FTC, BBB, Adult Protective Services (APS), Office of the Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Internet Crime Complaint Center.

If you think you may be a victim of a scam, contact San Bernardino County APS at 1 (877) 565-2020 or your local police department.