



SCAM ALERT

Scam: Charity Ruse Target: All Seniors

The nation's consumer protection agency, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is concerned as we enter the most charitable time of the year. Countless swindlers pose as charities and obtain not only your donation, but often your personal information.

The FTC suggests you do some research before you donate to ensure you are donating to a reputable cause and that your donation will benefit the group you intend. Be wary of telephone and email solicitors. Do not give them your personal information!

Charity scam warnings from the Federal Trade Commission!

Consider these suggestions before you donate to charity this year:

- ◆ Never give out personal or financial information.
- ◆ Never send cash: you will have no record it was received or for your taxes.
- ◆ Donate to charities you know and trust.
- ◆ Be alert for charities that spring up overnight whenever there is a holiday or tragedy.
- ◆ Check out the charity with the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance.

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.