



SCAM ALERT


Scam: Fake Festival and Event Tickets Target: All Seniors

Scam artists are appealing to seniors who are foodies and love music by promoting events featuring all-you-can-eat buffets, live music and entertainment usually through a social media link. The offer typically advertises that it is only available at the low price for a short time and promises access to a fabulous food and music festival.

The scam artists will provide a link to buy tickets using a debit or credit card, request your personal information, and then provide a link to print out your event tickets. However, when you show up at the listed venue, you find the event does not exist and/or the tickets are worthless.

Festival Attendees Fooled with Fake Festival Tickets!

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommend the following:

- 🔊 Research the event for working contact information. Pay close attention to website names as many scammers closely match the name of reputable businesses.
- 🔊 Check it out. Type the name of the festival and/or its promoters in your search engine along with the words “scam,” “fake,” or “fraud.” If you see others have been scammed, there’s a great chance you will be, too. If the event has taken place in other towns, search for online reviews.
- 🔊 Pay with a credit card, you can dispute the charges if the business doesn’t come through. Be wary of online sellers that don’t accept credit cards.
- 🔊 Look for secure sites, websites should begin with https (the “s” is for secure) and display a  symbol in the address bar.
- 🔊 Avoid tickets sold on Craigslist and other free online listings as scam artists are skilled at providing realistic tickets and fake receipts. Check out third-party ticket sites at bbb.org before making purchases.

**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.**