



SCAM
ALERT

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENT SCAM

If you or a loved one lives in a nursing home or assisted living facility and are receiving Medi-Cal, be aware that some facilities have been reported for trying to take the economic stimulus payments intended for their residents on Medi-Cal. Facilities claim that the residents are ineligible to receive the stimulus funds because they receive Medi-Cal and so must sign over their economic stimulus payments. **This information is false!**

According to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, economic stimulus payments are a tax credit and tax law says that tax credits are not counted as resources for federal programs like Medicaid, which is Medi-Cal in California. No one is allowed to take those funds from residents just because they receive Medi-Cal.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and Better Business Bureau offer the following suggestions:

- Do not sign over your economic stimulus payment to anyone
- If you are asked to sign over your payment or if you or a loved one has already signed over your payment, file a complaint with the OAG at <https://oag.ca.gov/home>
- Report the incident to the FTC at <https://ftc.gov/complaint>
- Reach out to your loved ones residing in facilities to see if they need assistance
- Visit the National Center on Law and Elder Rights for information on living in nursing homes or assisted living facilities at <https://ncler.acl.gov>

Note: You may report scam predators to the FTC, Adult Protective Services (APS) 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.