

## Scam: Deceptive Property Tax Reduction Offers Target: Seniors

Scam artists are contacting individuals with offers of a property tax reduction. They may contact you in the form of a letter that appears to be official and offer a property value reassessment and a reduction in your annual tax bill.

The letter may tell you to act quickly and include a deadline to respond. This letter may even threaten a late fee if you do not respond by the deadline. These letters often include a form that requests you provide personal and/or financial information. When the scam artist receives your form, he or she may use your information to gain access to your accounts or even steal your identity.

#### Do Not Complete These Forms! Do Not Provide Your Personal Information!

#### **Beware of Scam Artists Offering Property Tax Reductions!**

# The State of California recommends the following tips to protect yourself and your personal information:

- Do not respond to promises of a property tax reduction;
- Avoid responding to instructions to "act fast";
- Do not pay someone for services the government provides for free; and
- Contact your County Assessor to learn more about property tax reassessment. You can find the telephone number on your annual tax bill or in the county government listings in your local telephone directory.

### 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.