



County of San Bernardino
Department of Aging and Adult Services
(DAAS)

SCAM ALERT

Scam: Donations to Help Chinese Earthquake Victims

Target: Undetermined

Beware of e-mails claiming to raise money to help victims of the recent earthquake in China. These e-mails solicit contributions and claim to be from a charitable organization; some claim to offer free vacation trips to the largest donors and use fake logos from legitimate online pay services.

Follow these tips to help secure your personal and financial information:

- **Do not** respond, click on links, or open attached files from unsolicited (spam) e-mail. These files may contain viruses.
- **Be skeptical** of individuals representing themselves as officials soliciting donations via e-mail.
- **Always make contributions directly** to recognized organizations, rather than relying on others to make the donation on your behalf.
- **Validate the legitimacy** of the organization by directly accessing the recognized charity or aid organization's website, rather than following an alleged link to the site.
- **Do not provide** personal or financial information to anyone who solicits contributions. Providing such information may compromise your identity and expose you to identity theft.

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.