



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

SCAM ALERT

Scam: Home Repair Rip-offs

Target: Seniors

There is a rise in crime committed against seniors by persons who offer to make home repairs and take payment for the service but do not finish the job or do the job poorly.

Beware of scam artists

who pretend to be handymen or contractors!

To avoid home repair scams:

- Say “No!” to anyone who knocks on your door, unannounced, to repair items in your home.
- Ask all contractors to show you their “pocket license” and driver’s license.
- Obtain at least three written estimates explaining exactly how much the work will cost and when it will be completed.
- Make sure the details of your contract are confirmed in writing.
- Know the address of the contractor’s office, do not accept a post office box or telephone number only.
- Do not pay for all the work until it is completed and inspected. A small deposit may be required, not to exceed 40 percent of the final cost.

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.