



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

SCAM ALERT

**Beware of Online Shopping Scams:
Photos or Links to Items Can Infect your Computer.
Target: All Seniors**

Some criminals advertise items for sale online but do not include photographs of the items. Upon request, the seller/criminal will send you a single photograph or a link of the item advertised. The photograph or link will include harmful software that can infect your computer! After you purchase the merchandise, the seller/criminal has your personal information and never sends you the item.

Scam artists are posing as legitimate online merchants and using photographs and links to infect your computer!

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) urges everyone to be careful when shopping online. The FBI recommends the following:

- ◆ Ensure your anti-virus software and firewalls are current.
- ◆ Keep you computer software and operating systems updated.
- ◆ Always scan files before downloading them to your computer.
- ◆ Be cautious if you lose an auction and later the seller contacts you personally.
- ◆ Make sure websites are secure and authenticated before you buy.
- ◆ Be wary when the item you want is priced too low, it may be fraudulent.

**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.**