



SCAM ALERT

Scam: Offers for Prizes & Gift Cards

Target: All Seniors

Scam artists are sending out emails and text messages that include a subject line referencing an order that is ready for delivery. When you open the message there is no information regarding a delivery. Instead, there is an announcement that you have won the store's monthly giveaway prize and all you need to do is click the link to collect a gift card or other prize. **THIS IS A SCAM!** This scam is used by scam artists to transmit malware to your computer or cell phone in an attempt to obtain your personal information. Be wary of any unsolicited emails or text messages that promise free gift cards or any other prizes!

Scam artists use giveaways to obtain your personal information!

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) recommends the following tips to avoid these types of scams:

- 🔔 *Don't believe what you see.* Scam artists copy the colors, logos and letterhead of established organizations, so that the links look like they lead to legitimate websites. **Don't just click!**
- 🔔 *Legitimate businesses do not ask for your credit card numbers or banking information for coupons or giveaways.* If they do ask for banking information or any personal information, the giveaway may be a scam.
- 🔔 *Watch out for a reward that is too good.* Businesses offer small incentives and discounts to entice customers. If the offer seems too good to be true, it may be a scam.
- 🔔 *Look for a mismatched subject line and email body.* Many of these scams have an email subject line promising one thing but the content of the email is completely different.

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.