



# SCAM ALERT

## Scam: Fraudulent Diversity Visa Contact Target: All Seniors

Scam artists are posing as United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) employees and sending fraudulent emails and letters regarding the Diversity Visa program. These scam artists are attempting to extract payments and personal information. The USCIS may send a reminder to check your visa status through the U.S. Postal service, but will never contact you via email regarding your status.

The Diversity Visa is offered to immigrants from countries with historically low rates of immigration to the U.S. A limited number of visas are available each fiscal year. The Diversity Visas are distributed among six geographic regions and no single country may receive more than seven percent of the total available in any one year. There is no cost to register.

**Scam Artists are sending fraudulent Diversity Visa emails and letters!**

The USCIS and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) provide the following suggestions for all Diversity Visa applicants:

- 🔊 Review the rules and procedures at [USCIS.gov](http://uscis.gov) so that you know what to expect, when to expect it and from whom.
- 🔊 Check your status online through the Diversity Visa Entrant Status Check at <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov>. Checking your status online is the only way to find out if you have been selected to continue with the Diversity Visa process.
- 🔊 Remember that fees for the Diversity Visa application process are paid to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate cashier at the time of your scheduled appointment. The U.S. Government will never ask you to send payment in advance by check, money order or wire transfer.

**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.**