



JULY 2012

SCAM WIRE

Emerging scam and fraud information from the Pennsylvania SMP

Don't fall for the Utility Bill Scam!

Attention: There is no initiative through the Obama administration to pay your utility bills.

Several news outlets have reported a national scam that is cropping up in Pennsylvania, claiming over 500 PA residents so far. Scammers are contacting people through a variety of methods, including door-to-door, and promising them that a new initiative from the Obama administration will pay their utility bills. Victims are told to sign up in order to take advantage of the initiative, but signing up means giving out personal information such as social security and bank account numbers. Giving out that information leaves the victim vulnerable to identity theft. The victim will have to pay the utility bill out of their own pocket later and may be responsible for late fees and other charges.

Remember:

- * Never give your personal information out to someone who goes door-to-door or calls you unsolicited
- * If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is

If you have questions or want to report a scam or Medicare fraud, call us at

1-800-356-3606



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