

California Senior Medicare Patrol

Medicare Fraud Alert

May 2014

New Phone Scam Demands Payment or Threatens Arrest

We've received several reports of a phone scam that threatens beneficiaries with being arrested unless they immediately pay a large sum of money.

In this scam, a beneficiary receives a phone call from someone who says he is with the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation). The caller informs the beneficiary that she has an outstanding warrant and that she needs to pay \$1,500 or will be arrested.

The caller then says something like, "I am sending one of my deputies over in 1 hour to pick up the money. If you do not pay him the \$1,500, I will contact the sheriff's department and they will come over, arrest you and take you to jail." If a beneficiary protests or asked what the warrant is for, the caller usually cites a specific legal code that was "violated" to sound official. The caller also often leaves his name and phone number but it is a bogus name and a "burner" cell phone, meaning the number cannot be traced.

If you or someone you know comes across this or a similar scam, let us know. Together we can put an end to this fraud!

Call the [Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program \(HICAP\)](#) at 1-800-434-0222, or the [Senior Medicare Patrol](#) at 1-855-613-7080. Visit: cahealthadvocates.org. Thank You!!!

