York County Elder Abuse Task Force

Fraud Alert Bulletin

November 2016

Greetings fellow York Countians. This is a Fraud Alert issued by the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. Every other week, experts from the York County District Attorney's office who prosecute these devastating financial crimes will offer warnings about the latest financial scams targeting seniors here in York County. Educating seniors about financial fraud is a top priority of the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. With that in mind, we want every senior in York County to remember the 3 **R's**. **R**ecognize a potential scam; Refuse to make any hasty decisions and Report suspicious activity to police. Stay safe and feel free to contact me with any questions at:

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FRAUD ALERT! - Tech Support Scam

A recent Tech Support Scam has arisen where scammers will call you, indicate they work with well-known computer companies like Microsoft, and tell you that they have detected viruses on your computer. They will then attempt to obtain remote access to your computer or request that you pay for software that you do not need. These scams are designed to steal sensitive information and take your money.

How to Avoid Tech Support Scams:

- If you suspect you've received one of these calls, hang up and call a legitimate number associated with that company.
- Be skeptical of anyone who creates a sense of urgency or uses high-pressure tactics to obtain compliance.
- Don't give remote access to anyone who calls you out-of-the-blue.
- Don't provide credit card or personal info to anyone who calls unexpectedly indicating they are tech support.
- Never give your passwords over the phone.
- Don't use tech support companies you are not familiar with.

What to do if you believe you have encountered a scammer:

- Get rid of malware by obtaining legitimate security software and deleting anything it identifies as a problem.
- Change passwords.
- Contact your credit card company to have any charges you did not make reversed.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft website if your personal information was compromised.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at ftc.gov/complaint.