

ATTENTION SENIOR SANDY SURVIVORS: BEWARE OF SCAMS

TRENTON, N.J. — New Jersey seniors recovering from Hurricane Sandy are strongly advised to beware of scam artists claiming to represent the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Small Business Administration or the National Flood Insurance Program.

By going door to door to storm-damaged homes or making contact by phone or on the Internet, scam artists may try to obtain personal information such as Social Security and bank account numbers or falsely claim that you need to make a payment to a federal agency.

To avoid being a victim of a scam, remember:

- On any follow-up calls, a FEMA representative will only ask for the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number.
- While a FEMA representative may visit your home in connection with your claim, they will not ask you to make a payment.
- If someone comes to your door identifying themselves as a FEMA, SBA or NFIP representative, ask to see their federal identification badge. All authorized FEMA or SBA employees are required to display a laminated photo identification badge at all times.
- If you believe you have been the victim of a scam, call the FEMA Fraud Hotline at **800-323-8603** or call the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs at **800-242-5846**.

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