



SCAM ALERT!

A Consumer Update from
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AVOID ELECTION SCAMS

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With the Presidential election right around the corner, scammers will be doing all they can to get your money or personal information, not for the political campaigns, but for their own benefit. Here are some reminders to avoid being a victim of a few scams that are occurring.

- Do not donate to a political party from a telemarketer's phone call. Even if a call back number is given, it may not be legitimate. Chances are you will be giving your banking information to a scam. If you would like to donate to your favorite campaign or political party, contact them directly.
- President Obama is NOT going to pay your gas or electric utility bill! Utility customers have been contacted through flyers, social media, text messages and by people walking door-to-door. Scammers claim they need your bank's routing number and your social security number in order to make the payments. Not only will your bill not be paid, but now you may also be a victim of identity fraud.
- Do not respond to email or phone calls that are claiming to verify your voter registration. These scammers are asking for your credit card or social security card number. Remember that your voter registration is a record for the state and it is up to you to contact them if you believe your voter registration is not up to date.

Don't be a victim to these election scams. Never provide your social security number, banking numbers or credit card numbers to someone who calls you or comes to your home asking for them. They are likely to be scammers.

The above ALERT is part of the Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney's initiative to help citizens become aware of ways they can avoid becoming a victim, or ways they can help stop criminal activity that may be occurring. Upon request, the office can provide presentations on crime prevention actions and activities to halt crime and increase the quality of life in our community.

If you would like additional information on the above ALERT, or would like additional information regarding our programs to assist consumers in general and/or seniors in particular, please contact Kimberly Oliver, Supervising Attorney, Adult Protection Unit, or Ward Barrentine, Supervising Attorney, Fraud and Economic Crimes Unit at 937-225-5757.

If you would like us to send *SCAM ALERT* updates to you electronically, please send your e-mail address to: newsletter@mcpo.com to be added to our distribution list.