Greetings fellow York Countians,

This is a Fraud Alert issued by the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. Periodically, members of 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 Rs: Recognize a potential scam; Refuse to make any hasty decisions; and Report suspicious activity to police. Stay safe and feel free to contact either Chief Deputy Prosecutor Dave Sunday or Assistant District Attorney Alison Glunt at the District Attorney’s Office (717-771-9600) with any questions.

Dave Sunday
Chief Deputy Prosecutor

MEDICARE UPDATE

As part of the Social Security Number Removal Initiative, Medicare is updating their cards to remove your Social Security Number and replace it with a “Medicare Beneficiary Identifier” (MBI). The MBI—made up of a combination of 11 letters and numbers—should be protected like your Social Security Number, but will hopefully reduce identity theft.

The cards must all be replaced by April of 2019.

You are under no obligation to pay for a new card or give anyone updated information; the replacement will be made automatically. You will be able to begin using your new card as soon as you get it.

The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare has recommended that until you receive your new card you should not carry the card featuring your Social Security Number around with you generally. Take the card with you only when necessary.

Despite this effort to protect your information, scammers will continue to try to steal your identity. Keep these things in mind if you get calls regarding your Medicare card or benefits:

- If someone claiming to be from Medicare calling and asking for your Social Security Number or your bank information, hang up.
- If someone is asking for you to pay for your new Medicare card, hang up.
- If someone claiming to be from Medicare is calling and threatening to cancel your benefits if you don’t pay or provide bank information, hang up.

If you receive one of these calls, please report it to the FTC via their website. Also remember: Secure websites begin with “https:” in the URL.