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Greetings,

The police department has recently received a report about phone scams. These scams seem to target elderly persons and offer better health insurance coverage. The scammers tell the intended target that they need bank account information to verify the target's identification. The scam artist identifies himself as a representative of Dramco Medical. They could be using different company names and scams. Please remind your loved ones that giving out personal and financial information over the phone is not a safe practice

. Warning signs -- what a caller may tell you:

- "You must act 'now' or the offer won't be good."
- "You've won a 'free' gift, vacation, or prize." But you have to pay for "postage and handling" or other charges.
- "You must send money, give a credit card or bank account number, or have a check picked up by courier." You may hear this before you have had a chance to consider the offer carefully.
- "You don't need to check out the company with anyone." The callers say you do not need to speak to anyone including your family, lawyer, accountant, local Better Business Bureau, or consumer protection agency.
- "You don't need any written information about their company or their references."
- "You can't afford to miss this 'high-profit, no-risk' offer."
- "I'll send you a check. All you have to do is cash it and send me back a partial payment."

If you hear these--or similar--"lines" from a telephone salesperson, just say "no thank you," and hang up the phone.

Please consult the Federal Bureau of Investigation link below for more tips on dealing with phone scams.

<http://www.fbi.gov/majcases/fraud/fraudschemes.htm>

Thanks,
William Foley
Detective #256