



LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS

Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP)

Ensuring the independence and dignity of seniors by protecting their legal rights through education, counseling and advocacy

Legal Assistance for Seniors (LAS) & HICAP is continuing to deliver services during the Shelter in Place order. Due to court closure and government orders many things are on hold or moving slowly, however, LAS can still be reached with questions regarding our services. We are not seeing clients in our office, but our full staff is working remotely and is available to assist seniors in the following areas:

HICAP – HICAP assists with Medicare and related health insurance questions and needs at no cost. Our counselors are providing phone counseling during this period and appointments are usually available on a daily basis.

Beneficiaries may qualify for Medicare Savings Programs that help cover Medicare costs or the Extra Help program which assists with prescription drug coverage. If you have recently experienced a change in your income, please call to speak with a counselor. They can screen for program qualification and advise people on applying for these programs.

Elder Abuse - LAS is trying to minimize contact with our vulnerable clients. If they have a support person who can assist them with filing out the paperwork and filing it for them, we will assist them via telephone. If it is an emergency and they do not have someone who can assist them, we will work to provide services.

Housing/Home Safe- The Alameda County Sheriff is not currently enforcing evictions. The courts are closed so no new evictions can be filed at this time. Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order banning the enforcement of eviction orders for renters affected by COVID-19 through May 31, 2020. Please see the LAS website for updated information regarding orders for individual cities.

Public Benefits - Social Security is not collecting or processing new overpayments and is not trying to reduce, suspend or delay anyone's benefits. Social Security offices closed on March 17th. You can call, but waits are long. You have the right to request an in-person meeting at the Social Security office, but we do not know when they will resume. There are no in-person hearings right now. The request for in-person hearings are being granted for now but *could* change --OHO is asking for flexibility and support at this time as they figure things out.

If you need to reach LAS, please call 510-832-3040 and leave a message. If you would like to schedule a phone counseling appointment with HICAP, please call 510-893-0393. Please be patient, there may be delays in response time.

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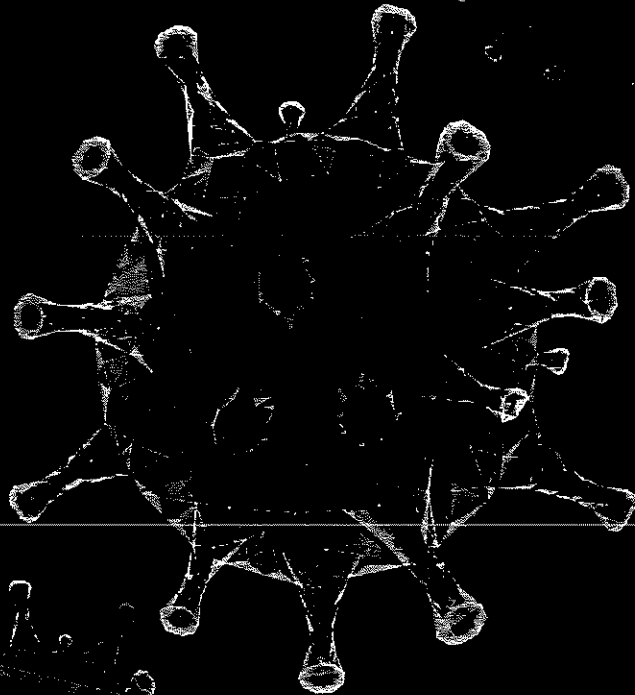
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Coronavirus Scams Fraud Alert

2020



CALIFORNIA SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL WARNING!

Beware of Offers to Test for Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Don't give your Medicare number to anyone over the phone or to door-to-door solicitors offering to test for the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

Beware of:

- » Scammers approaching residents of senior housing and assisted living facilities about "opportunities" for COVID-19 testing
- » Robocalls about "special virus kits" and asking for your Medicare number to send a "free" test
- » Emails offering COVID-19 testing services that can be ordered through a telehealth provider

855-613-7080

For additional information on healthcare fraud, visit cahealthadvocates.org



Find additional details on this fraud alert on the reverse side.