

# Alleged Traffic Violations

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Several months ago, the Attorney General of Indiana has sounded an alarm that scammers of his state (but this could also be happening soon in Tennessee) are trying to steal personal and financial information from unsuspecting individuals by threatening actions related to alleged traffic violations. Scam messages claim that by a certain date, individuals will face the following actions if payment is not completed:

- They will be reported the Motor Vehicles.
- Their vehicle registration will be suspended.
- Their driving privileges will be suspended for 30 days.
- They may face prosecution and will suffer potential impacts to credit scores.

You are reminded to stay vigilant and take precautions:

- **Do Not** click on any links in unsolicited email or text messages claiming to be from the motor vehicle department.
- **Do Not** provide personal information, such as your driver's license number or Social Security number.
- **Do Not** share any card or account information through text messages or unverified links.
- **Report** the unwanted text messages as junk on the app you use and block the phone number or email address.

# Medicare Fraud and Abuse

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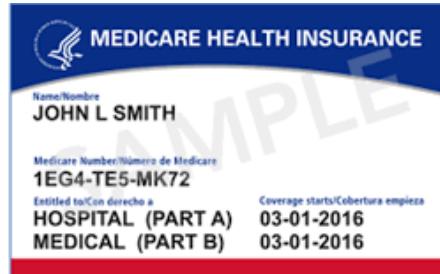
No matter how much you try to avoid Medicare fraud and abuse, it is hard to avoid it completely. The time prior to Annual Open Enrollment (October 15 to December 7) the phone calls and emails increase. Recently, SMP (Senior Medicare Patrol) developed and launched an app to keep you informed and send you alerts about Medicare scams and fraud. You need to do two things;

1-Remember that Social Security and Medicare will never call you unless you have specifically called them and requested information where they need to have a counselor return your call. Never give your Medicare number to anyone who calls you to 'verify' your number or offer you 'free' stuff.



2-Download the free SMP Medicare tracker app from your Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

This app offers scam alerts, educational content, an interactive fraud-spotting game and a digital healthcare tracker to help you monitor and report suspicious activity related to your Medicare benefits.



## Medicare Card Scams

### Tips for Protecting Yourself and Your Medicare

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There are four types of Medicare Card scams taking place. If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from Medicare to ask if you have received your Medicare card, please hang up!! This is a scam since Medicare does not call to see if you received your card. They will inquire if:

- Plastic Medicare Card ? Your Medicare card comes only in paper!! You may have a plastic card for your Advantage Plan if you have one and/or Part D Drug Plan or your Supplement Plan, but never for your Medicare card.
- Medicare Card with a chip ? Medicare cards are not credit cards and do not have a chip!!
- Medicare Card has expired ? Your Medicare card has a start date for Parts A and B. It never has an expiration date.
- Deactivated Medicare Card ? The only way your Medicare card will be deactivated is **if you do not pay your Part B premium because you forgot and are not on automatic deduction because you are not on Social Security**. If you let the payment lapse, then your card will be deactivated. Otherwise, it will not.

Medicare will not charge you to get a duplicate card should you need one. Also, if your Medicare number is compromised and is part of a scam, you can request a new number.