Protecting Our Elderly Veterans Against Fraud

Have you or a loved one received a suspicious call from an organization claiming affiliation with the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)?



The number of Veterans VA provides pension benefits to as of July 2022 (65+). Vul nerable populations are frequently targeted for el derly s cams by fraudsters.

The A,B,Cs of Pension Poaching

A financial scam targeting Veterans, survivors, and their families Becoming a preferred method by criminals to defraud the elderly Commonly involving financial maneuvers to defraud claimants

👻 Tips to Share with Veterans in Your Community

Don'ts:

- Don't share your personal information (e.g., VA.GOV, eBenefits), or other VA login Credentials with anyone.
- **Don't** sign a blank form to be filled out later without seeing the contents.
- Don't deposit VA benefits directly into a family member or caregiver's bank account unless the person is court appointed or a VA accredited fiduciary.

Do's:

- ✓ **Do** be allert! Identity theft is not always committed by strangers.
- ✓ Do frequently change and maintain strong passwords and never use Personally Identifiable Information (PII) in the password.
- Do be vigilant if someone offers to hide or rearrange your assets to qualify for VA pension. You may be required to repay benefits to the government.
- Do know VA does not charge for processing a claim or request a processing fee.

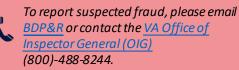
How BDP&R Helps

When a fraudulent payment redirect case is reported or suspected, Veteran Benefits Administration's (VBA) Benefits Delivery Protection and Remediation (BDP&R) team investigates the incident and confirms the fraudulent activity.

- BDP&R determines the necessary actions to protect the Veteran's benefits
- BDP&R reports those responsible for the alleged fraud
- BDP&R immediately reinstating the Veteran's benefits, making the Veteran whole again.

BDP&R works diligently to serve America's Veterans and remains committed to protecting all Veterans and beneficiaries, specifically the most vulnerable, from fraud and a buse.

How to Report Fraud or Pension Poaching





You may also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by visiting reportfraud.ftc.gov

How Can You Help

VA is committed to defeating fraudsters who targetelderly Veterans by **educating all advocates on the fraud targeting and pension poaching tactics being used against Veterans.** Please join us in making VA a hostile environment for fraudsters by encrypting emails when using Veteran information, ensuring antivirus computer updates, and locking your computer when away.



