

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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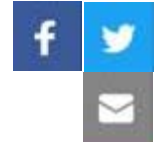
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Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

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Scam alert – beware SHIBA impersonators

BOISE ID – The Idaho Department of Insurance’s Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) office has been made aware of a scam being perpetrated in Washington State. Residents are receiving telephone calls from an individual claiming to be a SHIBA representative. SHIBA counselors and volunteers never cold-call consumers.

No reports of this scam happening in Idaho have been received; however, the Department encourages all consumers to be proactive – especially when it comes to sharing personal information. Tips for consumers:

- State and federal government agencies do not contact consumers by telephone requesting personal information. If you get a call like this – hang up.
- Report suspicious incidents to the proper authorities. If you get a call like this, call SHIBA at 800-247-4422.

“The mission of the Department of Insurance and the SHIBA office is to protect consumers from unscrupulous individuals who would take advantage and cause harm to others,” said Shannon Hohl, SHIBA Supervisor.

SHIBA provides free, unbiased Medicare benefits information. Consumers with questions about this or other Medicare issues are encouraged to contact SHIBA at 800-247-4422.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to equitably, effectively and efficiently administer the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit www.doi.idaho.gov.

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