

# Living Safely

with disabilities and special health needs

## Phone Scams and Identity Theft



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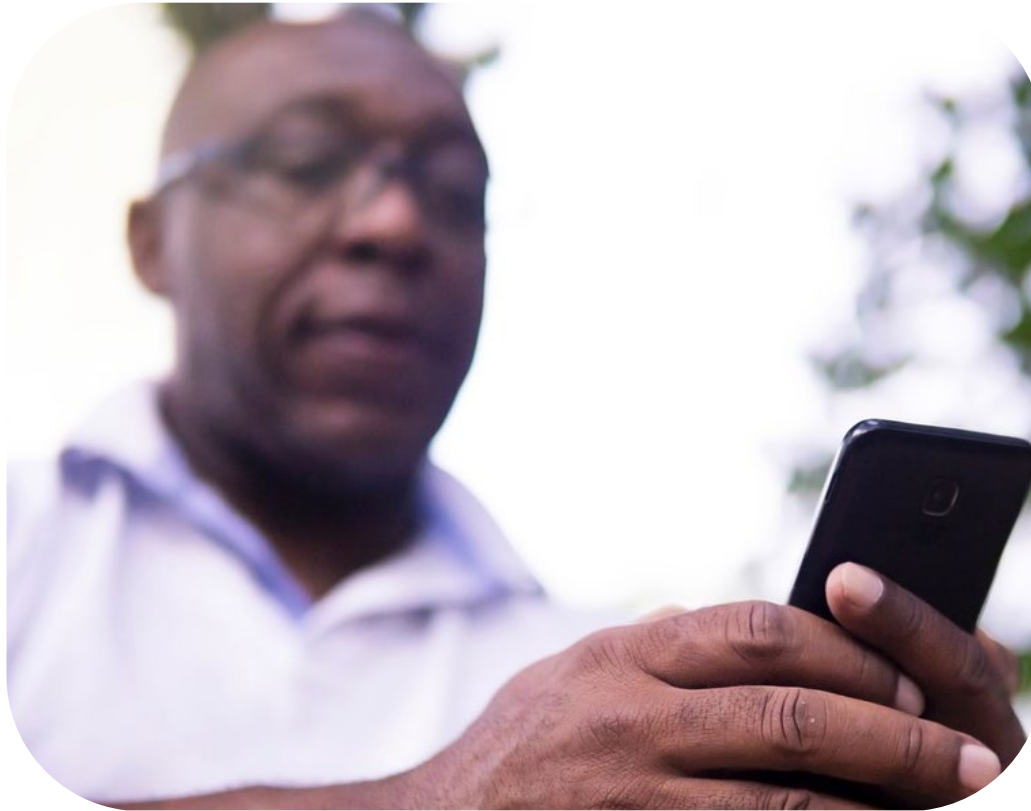


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A phone scam is a phone call or text from someone who is trying to get personal information in order to trick a person.

Phone scams may be from a person, a computer recording, or a text message.

Phone scammers make calls or send texts to ask for personal information.



A phone scammer might pretend to be a police officer, someone from a law firm, or someone from the government.

The person might be trying to trick me.

Some scammers looked up people's personal information and use it to try to get more information.



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Phone scammers have figured out many creative ways to manipulate people to get personal information.

People can lose a lot of money from phone scams – sometimes all their savings in the bank.

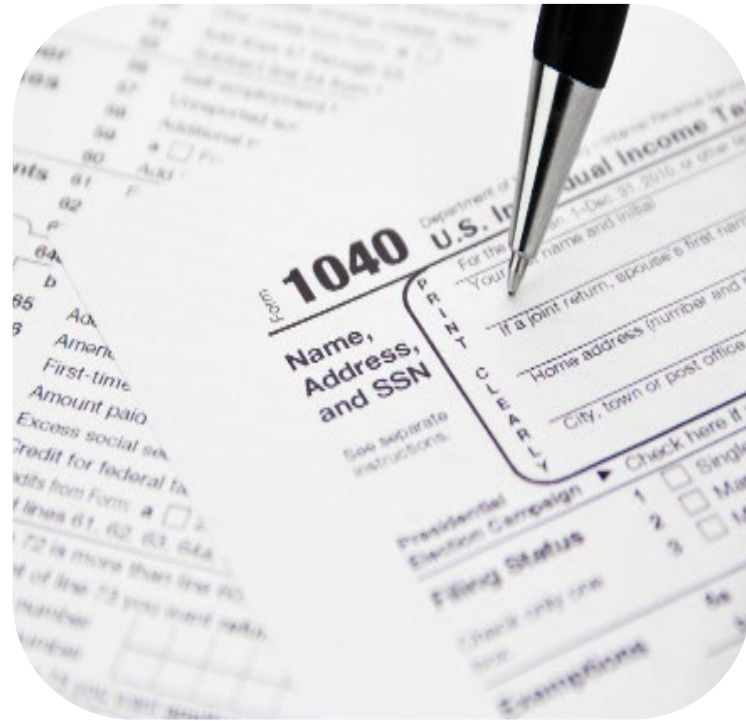
Sometimes phone scammers pretend to be friendly, helpful, and make promises. Other times they may make threats or try to scare me.



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When a person uses personal or financial information without my permission, it is called identity theft.

The person might steal my name and address, credit card, bank account number, Social Security number, or medical insurance account numbers. With this information, they can pretend to be me.



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The purpose is to access bank accounts to take money, make purchases, or mislead me to do something.

Examples of identity theft include buying things with my credit card, getting new credit cards in my name, opening phone, electricity, or gas account using my name, stealing the money from my tax refund, using my health insurance to get medical care, and pretending to be me if they are arrested.

For more Living Safely resources, visit [www.rwjbh.org/cshlivingsafely](http://www.rwjbh.org/cshlivingsafely)

We value the expertise of our partners in safety who have demonstrated their commitment to inclusive healthy communities. Portions of this resource have been adapted from the Federal Trade Commission ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)).

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