

**SCAMS REPORT**  
**MILTON TOWNSHIP S.A.L.T. COUNCIL MEETING JULY 11, 2022**

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**National Do Not Call Registry Scam**

**Background**

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) National Do Not Call Registry gives you an opportunity to opt out of receiving telemarketing calls. Once you register your phone number, telemarketers are required by federal law to stop calling you. You can register up to three home or mobile phone numbers online at [donotcall.gov](http://donotcall.gov) or by calling 1-888-382-1222 from the phone you wish to register. Only personal phones may be registered. Business phones and fax machines are not eligible.

**How the scam works**

You receive a call from someone claiming to represent the FTC National Do Not Call Registry. The caller tells you that your registration has recently expired and offers to help you with the renewal process. You're asked to pay a small handling fee and verify your personal information in order to reinstate the service.

**Facts to keep in mind**

- Telephone numbers on the registry never expire. Once your phone number is added to the registry, you don't need to renew it. If a caller claiming to represent the FTC tells you that your registration has expired and has to be renewed, hang up the phone. You are dealing with a scammer.
- Any money you remit to renew your registration is lost to scammers and cannot be recovered.
- If you provide the personal information requested by the caller, you risk having your identity stolen and money taken from your account.
- If you change phone numbers, you must register the new number if you want to block calls from telemarketers.
- Registered phone numbers that are disconnected and reassigned are removed from the registry. New owners of reassigned numbers must register their numbers if they want to block calls from telemarketers.
- If you registered your phone number and later decide you'd like to start receiving calls from telemarketers, you may submit a request to the FTC at any time to have your number removed from the registry.
- Legitimate telemarketing companies strive to comply with the law and will not call you if your phone number is registered.
- If your phone number is registered and a telemarketer calls you, the caller is breaking the law and is likely a scammer. Hang up the phone and report the incident to the FTC at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://reportfraud.ftc.gov) or 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).
- Some organizations are legally permitted to call you even if your phone number is registered. These include charities, political and religious groups, debt collectors, companies with whom you have recently done business, companies conducting surveys, and companies to whom you have given written permission to contact you.
- If you are a victim of this scam, report it to the following agencies:
  - Federal Trade Commission at [identitytheft.gov](http://identitytheft.gov) or 1-877-438-4338,
  - Illinois Attorney General's Senior Fraud Helpline at 1-800-243-5377, and
  - Your local police department.

[Source: FTC]