

SCAM REPORT
MILTON TOWNSHIP S.A.L.T. COUNCIL MEETING 10-14-25

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1. PASSPORT SCAM

A local resident applied for a passport and did not realize she was dealing with a scammer who claimed he could help her file and expedite the application for a fee. The victim provided her personal and financial information as instructed, and money was subsequently stolen from her account.

Be aware:

- One can apply for a U.S. passport online without any outside help.
 - Only the U.S. Dept. of State can expedite the application process. There is an additional fee for this and for faster shipping.
 - The official U.S. Dept. of State website for passport information is travel.state.gov.
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2. MEDICARE CARD SCAM

With the upcoming Medicare Open Enrollment season (10/15 - 12/7/25), you may be contacted and told you need a "new" Medicare card with a chip for enhanced security. You are asked to confirm your personal and payment information to cover a small processing and handling fee.

Be aware:

- Medicare agents will not contact you and ask you to verify personal information unless you contact them first.
 - New Medicare cards are automatically mailed to beneficiaries. They do not have to be requested.
 - Do not rely on your caller ID to verify the caller, as it may show a fake number. If you wish to confirm a call from a Medicare agent, hang up and call 1-800-MEDICARE.
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3. MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT SEASON (10/15 - 12/7/25) [NOTE: THIS IS NOT A SCAM]

- Change your Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C)
- Change your Medicare Drug Plan (Part D)
- Switch from Original Medicare (A & B) to Medicare Advantage (Part C) or from Medicare Advantage (Part C) to Original Medicare (A & B)

Your current plan's benefits may change in 2026. Even if you are satisfied, compare other carriers because some plans may have lower costs or better benefits. After comparing, you can make an informed decision. To get help, call 1-800-MEDICARE or use the Plan Finder tool at [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) to find plans in your area.

Warning: If you do nothing during Medicare Open Enrollment, your current coverage will automatically renew for 2026.

4. SOCIAL SECURITY IMPOSTOR SCAMS

You receive an email stating your Social Security account may have been compromised and that your Social Security benefit payments may be suspended or delayed. You're instructed to download the agency's latest software update to correct the problem. If you do so, you will download malware that enables the scammer to access your device and steal your personal and financial information.

Be aware: The sender's address of a legitimate email from Social Security will end in [ssa.gov](mailto:SSA@ssa.gov).
