

## Important Alert: Department of Health and Human Services Hotline Being Targeted by Scammers



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) recently confirmed that the HHS OIG Hotline telephone number is being used as part of a telephone spoofing scam.

These scammers represent themselves as HHS OIG Hotline employees and can alter the appearance of your caller ID to make it seem as if the call is coming from the HHS OIG Hotline 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477). These individuals use various tactics to obtain or verify your personal information, which can then be used to steal money from your bank account or for other fraudulent activity. The HHS OIG takes this matter very seriously. They are actively investigating this matter and intend to have the perpetrators prosecuted.

**It is important to know that the HHS OIG will not use their hotline telephone number to make outgoing calls. So if you get a call from 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477), do not answer the phone. And as a general rule, NEVER give out any personal information, including but not limited to your Social Security number, bank account information or birthdates to anyone who calls you.**

If you believe you may have been a victim of this fraudulent scheme, we encourage you to contact the HHS OIG Hotline directly at 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477) or via email at [spooof@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:spooof@oig.hhs.gov). You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357). For more information on this scam visit, <https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/consumer-alerts/alerts/phone-scam.asp>.

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