

July 23, 2025 – NEWS BULLETIN

BEWARE of INHERITANCE SCAMS targeting older Pennsylvanians!!!



The Pennsylvania Department of Aging is warning older adults to be alert for a new scam **involving fake emails from individuals posing as Pennsylvania state employees**. The reported scheme targets older Pennsylvanians **by claiming they are owed a large inheritance and requesting upfront payments to access the funds**. These scammers often use convincing language and spoofed email addresses that appear to come from official Commonwealth agencies.

“Older adults are often targeted due to the savings they’ve accumulated over a lifetime,” said Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging Jason Kavulich. “Scams like these can devastate retirements and families. We urge older adults to talk to a trusted family member or contact their local Area Agency on Aging before responding to any suspicious messages.”

What to Watch For:

- Emails or calls about unexpected inheritances or prizes.
- Requests for upfront payments or personal information.
- Emails that don’t end in **@pa.gov** or websites that don’t end in **pa.gov**.
- Pressure to act quickly or in secrecy.

What to Do:

- Never share personal or financial information with unknown contacts.
- Do not send money or cryptocurrency to strangers.
- Report suspected scams to the PA Insurance Department or Department of Banking and Securities at 1-866-PA-Complaint, or to the Attorney General's Office at **1-800-441-2555**.