

Phone Fraud

Unless YOU initiate contact ... *Never give out personal information*

- ❖ The government does **NOT** call or text or email asking for information
- ❖ Threats that you'll lose your Medicare or SS or other are a **Red Flag**
- ❖ Those who contact others to gain personal information are **criminals**
- ❖ **Criminals** play on either false compassion or fear
 - *Those living alone are at greatest risk, especially widowed females who've never managed money*
- ❖ The percent of the general population that will develop some type of Dementia *increases* as we age, and the ability to make proper decisions *decreases*:
 - **Age 60-70: 20% ... Age 70-80: 35% ... Age 80+: 50%**
 - *Approximately 60,000 persons in East Tennessee have dementia*
 - *50% have Alzheimer's ... 7 out of 12 Alzheimer's individuals live alone!*

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Resources

- ❖ Get on BOTH Do Not Call Registers:
 - **Federal:** 1-888/382-1222 **Tennessee:** 1-877/872-7030
- ❖ If you suspect Medicare Fraud:
 - Call **Medicare:** 1-800/633-4227 or go to: www.medicare.gov
- ❖ If you suspect Identity Theft:
 - Call the **Federal Trade Commission:** 1-877/438-4338
- ❖ Help get the word out to your family, friends, neighbors ... only **criminals** make fraudulent contact and ask for personal information!
- ❖ Get more ElderWatch information on fraud and abuse concerns at www.ethra.org
 - Go to Publications ... then to Brochures ... then to Safety Tip Sheets

Never give out personal information ... unless YOU make the contact