

SeniorLink

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El Hogar Community Services Inc.



SeniorLink June Newsletter 2022

Contact SeniorLink

at: (916) 369-7872

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Monday - Friday; 8:00AM - 5:00PM

Information to Help You

Fraud & Phone Scams... What to do?

AARP (<http://www.aarp.org>)

Do's

- **Do** put your phone number on the FTC's [National Do Not Call Registry](#). It won't stop spam calls, but it will make them easier to spot because most legitimate telemarketers won't call you if you're on the registry.
- **Do** consider using a call-blocking mobile app or device to screen your calls and weed out spam and scams. You can also ask your phone-service provider if it offers any blocking tools.
- **Do** hang up on illegal robocalls.
- **Do** slow down and ask questions of telemarketers. Legitimate businesses and charities will answer questions and give you time to consider a purchase or donation. Scam callers will pressure you to commit right away.
- **Do** independently research travel deals, charities or business and investment opportunities you hear about by phone.

Don't

- **Don't** answer calls from unknown numbers.
- **Don't** return one-ring calls from unknown numbers. These may be scams to get you to call hotlines in African and Caribbean countries that have U.S.-style three-digit area codes, and you could incur hefty connection and per-minute fees.
- **Don't** follow instructions on a pre-recorded message, such as "Press 1" to speak to a live operator (it will probably lead to a phishing expedition) or press any key to get taken off a call list (it will probably lead to more robocalls).
- **Don't** give personal or financial data, such as your Social Security number or credit card account number, to callers you don't know. If they say they have the information and just need you to confirm it, that's a trick.
- **Don't** pay registration or shipping charges to get a supposed free product or prize. Such fees are ploys to get your payment information.
- **Don't** make payments by gift card, prepaid debit card or wire transfer. Fraudsters favor these methods because they are hard to trace.