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Volume 14, Issue 5

May 24, 2019

MAY ISSUE

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**Social Security Scam, Your Social Security
Number Isn't Ever Suspended. Ever!**

**Honoring and Observing Memorial Day
Traditions of Senior Loved Ones**

A caller says that he's from the government and your Social Security Number (SSN) has been suspended. He sounds very professional. So you should do exactly what he says to fix things....right?

Wrong!

The FTC has gotten reports about scammers trying to trick people out of their personal information by telling them that they need to "reactivate" their supposedly "suspended" SSNs. The scammers say the SSN was suspended because of some connection to fraud or other criminal activity. They say to call a number to clear it up—where they'll ask you for personal information.

**Social Security Numbers Do Not Get
Suspended**

This is just a variation of a government imposter scam that is after your SSN, bank account number, or other personal information. In this variation of the scheme, the caller pretends to be protecting you from a scam while he is trying to lure you into one.

You can go to the following web link for additional information regarding scams.

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0048-government-imposter-scams>

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For many seniors, Memorial Day is a very personal holiday. Some of them are veterans who remember those whose lives they saw being taken around them on the field of battle.

A half million of our oldest seniors were among the 16 million who served in our armed forces in World War II. These members of the "Greatest Generation" are joined by millions more seniors who served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. More than 400,000 US service members lost their lives during WWII, as did thousands more who would be seniors today if they hadn't been killed in Korea or Vietnam.

It is the memory of those men and women that makes Memorial Day so special to our senior loved ones.

Seniors' Memorial Day Traditions

There are a number of ways our seniors observe Memorial Day, with many traditions originating in childhood.

- Attend a special Memorial Day service.
- View, or even participate in, a local Memorial Day parade to honor the fallen.

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Social Security Scam, Your Social Security Number Isn't Ever Suspended. Ever! ...*Continued From Pg 1*

A few tips to protect yourself

- Never give out or confirm personal information over the phone, via e-mail or on a website until you've checked out whoever is asking you for it. **Don't give the caller your Social Security Number.** If you already did, visit IdentityTheft.gov/SSA to find out what steps you can take to protect your credit and your identity.
- Do not trust a name, phone number, or e-mail address just because it seems to be connected with the government. Con artists use official-sounding names and may fake caller ID or e-mail address information to make you trust them. Besides, the government normally contacts people by postal mail.
- Contact government agencies directly, using telephone numbers and website addresses you know to be legitimate.
- **Check with the real Social Security Administration.** The SSA will not contact you out of the blue. But you can call them directly at 1-800-772-1213 to find out if SSA is really trying to reach you and why.

Report It!

If someone has tried to steal your personal information by pretending to be from the government, report it to the FTC (<http://www.ftc.gov/complaint>). Be sure to include:

- Date and time of the call.
- Name of the government agency the imposter used.
- What they tell you, including the amount of money and the payment method they ask for.
- Phone number of the caller; although scammers may use technology to create a fake number or spoof a real one, law enforcement agents may be able to track that number to identify the caller.

Source: www.ftc.gov

Please contact our office for more information.†

"What a bargain grandchildren are! I give them my loose change, and they give me a million dollars' worth of pleasure"
- Gene Perret



What Our Clients Say About Us

"Entire encounter is pleasant and professional. We always appreciate Marcia's help." —PG

Honoring and Observing Memorial Day Traditions of Senior Loved Ones...*Continued From Pg 1*

- Fly their flag or lower the flag to half-mast until noon.
- Visit the grave site of veterans, especially those at one of the national or state cemeteries.
- Place a flag and/or flowers on the graves of family members or friends.
- Visit with veterans or the families of those who lost someone in the service.

Joining Seniors in Their Traditions

Family caregivers who join senior loved ones in their Memorial Day observances are demonstrating to the seniors just how important they and their feelings are to us.

Memorial Day can be a difficult and emotional time for many seniors, even if they don't let it show. Having a family member on whom they can lean can help make the day easier and even create new memories for everyone involved.

Many seniors have difficulty getting out to participate in the traditions that are still important to them, which can make them feel even worse about the day, especially if they are alone with their thoughts all day.

Do you know how your senior traditionally observed Memorial Day? If you don't, just ask them.

Source: www.seniorcarecorner.com

Please contact our office for more information.†



You can e-mail us at

Amanda@MCampbellCPA.com to receive your newsletter by e-mail!