

FRAUD ALERT!

Beware Medicare Prescription Drug Fraud

It didn't take long for con artists to take advantage of the new Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans. Attorneys general from several states have filed a civil lawsuit and special injunction against **Peoples Benefit Services Inc.** The lawsuit accuses the company of deceiving thousands of older consumers by falsely implying that its discount drug cards and other products are government-endorsed insurance plans that offer "members" significant savings on prescription drugs, family medical and/or dental "coverage."

In another scam, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is warning that representatives of **Patient Care Group** are calling veterans to administer prescriptions for veterans. The callers request credit card information, purportedly so the veterans will continue to receive their medications. The VA says they have made no change to their prescription system and that veterans should not provide any information to callers from this group.

To protect yourself from fraud related to Medicare Part D, the District Attorney's Office recommends:

- ✓ Never give any personal information - social security number, Medicare number, credit card or bank account numbers to anyone who calls.
- ✓ However, if you initiate a call to the Social Security Administration or Medicare, you may be requested to give your social security number.
- ✓ Thoroughly understand your prescription drug plan choices before making a decision. For personal assistance, contact the **Colorado Access to Benefits Coalition at 1-800-503-5190.**
- ✓ If you feel you have been victimized, call the DA's Fraud Line



**For assistance call the DA's Fraud Line:
720-913-9196 or 720-913-9179**

*CASE is a Partnership of the District Attorney and the
Community to Prevent Elder Financial Exploitation*

November 2005