If you receive a call from the Social Security Administration indicating that your Social Security number has been suspended or compromised, hang up! It’s a ploy.

In the Social Security Scam, callers target elderly individuals. Crooks tell victims that, due to suspicious account activity, they may become ineligible to receive benefits.

Victims are persuaded to withdraw thousands of dollars from their bank accounts, wire money or make payments to the crooks over the phone with credit or gift cards.

Victims also may be threatened with arrest by people posing as police officers if they don’t pay the Social Security Administration.

HELPFUL TIPS

- Never provide your Social Security number or banking information to an unsolicited caller.
- Do not wire money or provide gift cards or cash.
- If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or report the incident to your local police agency.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a scam, please contact your local law enforcement agency.