The Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) reminds you to protect yourself and others from scams involving your credentials that you hold with DSPS or one of its attached boards.

## **DO NOT** give scammers money or personal information!

## If you receive a communication that seems suspicious for any reason:

- **Try to stay calm:** Do not provide anyone with money or personal information, even if you feel pressured, threatened, or scared.
- Hang up or ignore it: If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email, hang up
  or do not respond. DSPS employees will never threaten you, demand
  immediate payment, or try to gain your trust by sending you pictures or
  documents.
- Report scams involving your credentials: If you receive a suspicious call, text, or email that mentions DSPS or any regulating or credentialing board (e.g., Board of Nursing), you can report the fraudulent communication.
  - You may file a complaint online at the <u>FBI Internet Crime Complaint</u> <u>Center</u> or by calling 202-324-3000.
  - You can also find more information about how to identify fraudulent communications at the Federal Trade Commission website.

## **Links to Additional Information:**

Scam Alerts | FTC Consumer Information

How to Spot, Stop, and Report Government Imposter Scams | FTC Consumer Information

**Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3)** 

Online Security | FTC Consumer Information

Scam Awareness (ssa.gov)