



CALIFORNIA HEALTH ADVOCATES

# Senior Medicare Patrol



# Protecting Your Medical Identity

- Medicare Trust Fund loses \$60 - \$90 BILLION every year
- Recent Fraud Trends:
  - Equipment vendors make false promises - “Free” or “100% Covered by Medicare”
  - Hospice agencies enroll ‘non-terminal’ seniors in hospice
- Do not disclose Medicare number, social security number and other personally-identifiable information
- Medicare will never call you asking for your Medicare number
- **Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)** can help with questions, concerns and/or complaints
  - Call statewide, toll-free 855-613-7080

# SMP Program Offerings

- 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month webinars
  - February 25: “Medicare Fraud Cases” – Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine Swann
  - March 24: “Transitioning from a Covered CA Plan to Medicare” – Elaine Wong Eakin, California Health Advocates
  - April 28: “Social Security Administration’s Representative Payee Program” – Shana Wynn, Justice in Aging
- Medicare Fraud Alerts (published in 7 threshold languages)
  - [www.cahealthadvocates.org](http://www.cahealthadvocates.org)
- Statewide fraud prevention in-person education
  - 855-613-7080
  - [mnozaki@cahealthadvocates.org](mailto:mnozaki@cahealthadvocates.org)