

February 11, 2021

Dear Licensees

REF: **Scam alert** involving someone posing as an FBI Agent or staff of the Board

On February 9, 2021, the Board began receiving calls from licensees regarding information requests allegedly from the Board. The call licensees are receiving is from a person who states they are either with the FBI or the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

The caller states they are with the Board, they attempt to get personal information such as your SSN or Date of Birth. The caller ID on your phone will also show 410-764-4752, which is a number of a Board staff member. The Board has **no need** to ask for this information because you already provided it at the time you were licensed.

In another variation, the caller will either identify themselves as a Board staff member or an FBI agent. The caller will state that the FBI has an active file on you. They also will infer that the FBI is about to arrest you unless you cooperate. The caller then will ask very specific questions regarding your financial information. Again, the Board has **no need** for this type of information and would not ask for it. The only time the Board may ask about banking information is during license renewal if there was an issue with the renewal payment. The Board only accepts credit cards for license renewals therefore your banking information would not be asked for. Credit card payments are made **only** through our online portal. The FBI will also not call and tip you off to an investigation or ask for the information. They will show up at your door and identify themselves with credentials

Both of these are types of calls are SCAMS!

If you receive a call and you are skeptical of it, there are several things you can do to verify it is actually a staff member from the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

1. Ask for their name and call back number. Go to the Board's website and look at the "Contact Us" page. Does the persons name appear on the contact list? Tell the individual you will call them right back and call back on the primary number listed for that person.
2. Look at the caller ID. What number appears? If the number matches what is on the website tell them you will call them right back. The reason for this is unless you have our telephone number programed into your caller ID the number will not appear. You caller ID will show the switchboard number for the phone system in our building, not the extension number.

The Board of Physical Therapy Examiner's and Staff would encourage you to take the extra steps to protect yourself and your personal information. We do not mind the extra steps it takes to make you feel comfortable you are speaking with an actual staff member.

If you have any questions or concerns please take the time visit the contact page on the Board's website and call us.

John Bull
Deputy Director of Operations