



## FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY ALERT

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of incidents reported where individuals are claiming to be “Health Inspectors”. These “Inspectors” are trying to convince operators that they need to pay fines; purchase products they claim are required by law or are requesting to schedule inspections through a computerized phone system using a unique code number. The purpose of this informational bulletin is to educate all facility operators on how to recognize a legitimate Environmental Health Specialist.

When an employee of San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services (EHS) comes to your facility please be aware of the following:

- All EHS employees have a San Bernardino County photo identification and business cards. They must show identification to you upon request.
- EHS does not sell or endorse any specific products or equipment even if they are required by law.

When an employee of San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services calls you, please be aware of the following:

- EHS does not use a computerized phone system to make phone calls.
- EHS does not regularly schedule inspections. Our inspections are generally unannounced.
- If you are asked for an identification number at any time, it is a 7 digit number with two letters in front of the digits. The letters are FA, PR, WA, AR or IN. This sequence of numbers and letters are located on your permit, your invoice and/or your inspection reports.

What you can do to protect yourself:

- Ask for a photo ID and/or business card that shows the person in question works for San Bernardino County Environmental Health.
- Contact EHS at (909) 884-4056 to confirm the person is a current employee.
- If the individual is not able to provide adequate identification and EHS cannot confirm their identity, contact the local law enforcement agency.
- If you have further questions regarding identification of Environmental Health Specialists, please contact (909) 387-4692.