CENSUS JOB SCAMS

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau recruits thousands of people nationwide to assist with taking the Census. This widely reported availability of jobs can create opportunities for scammers to con would-be applicants seeking to become a Census Taker.

TIPS AND FAQs TO AVOID Census-Related Job Scams Include:

• There is no application fee to apply for a job with the Census Bureau;
• Federal agencies will not guarantee that an applicant will be hired, much less charge a fee to do so;
• Apply directly with the Census Bureau by visiting 2020Census.gov/jobs;
• Contact the Census Bureau’s Jobs helpline at 1-855-JOB-2020 (1-855-562-2020); and
• Report suspected Census 2020 job scams to Rumors@Census.gov.

Florida Attorney General’s Office
Scams at a Glance: Census Imposters

Visit MyFloridaLegal.com to find consumer tips or to file a complaint. By remaining vigilant and informed, savvy consumers can help us build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

Report fraud by calling
1-866-9-NO-SCAM
(1-866-966-7226)

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The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the census every 10 years to count each person living in the nation’s states and territories. The census performs a critical role in the function of our representative government. Participation is required by law, and each home will receive an invitation to respond to the survey by April 1. There are three ways to respond to the survey – online, by phone, or by mail. If no response is received, a Census 2020 worker may follow up in person or by phone.

Scammers may seek to exploit the mandatory nature of the 2020 Census by posing as Census takers online, over the phone, or in person, to gain access to private information and use it to commit identity theft or other crimes.

- Be aware that legitimate Census Takers will not ask for Social Security numbers, bank account or credit card information, or any form of payment;
- Keep in mind the Census survey does ask for some personal information such as the names and dates of birth of household members; but,
- Know that the Census Bureau will never ask for usernames, passwords, mother’s maiden name, times of day when the household is unoccupied, or other information that would be useful to identity thieves or criminals;
- Check the ID badge of any Census Taker performing home visits, and ensure that the badge includes the worker’s photo, the U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and the expiration date;
- Call the Census Bureau Customer Support at 1-800-923-8282 if questions remain about the validity of a Census worker’s identity or the authenticity of a piece of mail or phone call received;
- Contact local law enforcement immediately if it is determined that an in-home visitor is posing as a Census worker;
- Confirm that the return address on mail received from the Census Bureau is located in Jeffersonville, Indiana;
- Know that anyone requiring payment to file a Census response or threatening fines or arrest if a response is not filed is a scammer;
- Be aware that the Census Bureau will not send unsolicited emails requesting personal information;
- Forward suspicious emails purporting to be from the Census Bureau to OIS.Fraud.Reporting@Census.gov and do not reply or open any links or attachments in the email; and
- Report suspected Census scams to the U.S. Census Bureau by calling 1-800-354-7271 (English) or 1-800-833-5625 (Spanish).