



Idaho Medical Association

December 6, 2011

Memo: 095.11

To: IMA Members

From: Ron Hodge, Associate Executive Director

Subject: ALERT – Phone Scam

The IMA has received a report from a physician office that was the victim of a phone scam. The office was contacted by someone claiming they were from the “IMA Investigation Division.” The person asked if the office had received a complaint letter, which of course, the office had not received. The caller then stated that the physician’s license was suspended and that the caller needed tax id numbers, credit card numbers, etc., to re-mail the complaint letter. The office was suspicious enough that they asked for a phone number before giving them any information. The office was given a number and called back and they still sounded legitimate.

After giving them credit card information, the office called the IMA. Because the IMA does not have an Investigation Division and is not the licensing entity for physicians, I recommended that the office contact the Idaho State Board of Medicine to confirm the caller was not with the Board. After confirming the call was not instigated by the Board, it was apparent that this was a scam.

If you receive a similar call, do not give them any information and alert the Board of Medicine at 208-327-7000 and the IMA at 208-344-7888.