

## **Fraud Alert – April 16, 2024**

### **Osteopathic Medical Board of California**

The Osteopathic Medical Board of California has learned of an attempted fraud scheme aimed at licensees of the Board. In the scheme, scam artists identify themselves as Board staff or investigators and notify the licensee that they are under investigation, that their license may be suspended, or that an arrest warrant has been issued in their name. The caller will demand payment via wire transfer, online escrow account, or other internet payment method and may follow up later to demand additional payments.

Callers may be “spoofing” Board telephone numbers to make the calls appear to be coming from the Board, and/or using fake Board letterhead to add authenticity to the scam.

If you receive a call from an individual claiming to be a Board employee who is attempting to gather your personal and financial information, please consider the following:

- Refuse payment. Never disclose banking/financial or personal information such as Social Security numbers, dates of birth, or credit/debit card numbers without ensuring the person requesting the information has a legitimate need for it.
- Take down the caller's information (including name, title, phone number, and email address), let them know you will follow-up directly with the Board, and end the call.
- If you have any doubts or questions about someone claiming to represent the Board, contact the Board directly at (916) 928-8390, even if this looks like the same number you are being called from.
- You may also consider ending the call without explanation if it appears suspicious or to be a scam.