

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) has learned of a recent scam aimed at licensees of the **Dental Board of California (Board)**. In this scheme, a caller falsely identifies themselves as an employee or investigator of the Board and claims the licensee's license was suspended. The caller demands the licensee make a payment immediately to reinstate their license.

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 or credit card numbers without first taking steps to verify that the person requesting the information has a legitimate need for it.
- Never disclose personal information to the caller such as Social Security Numbers or dates of birth.
- 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.
- You may also consider ending the call without explanation if it appears suspicious or to be a scam.
- Contact the Board at dentalboard@dca.ca.gov.
- Report the call to local law enforcement authorities.
- Be aware that Board and DCA staff will never ask for credit/debit card information over the phone.
- Read the [Board's fraud alert](#) for more tips and directions for contacting the Board to inquire if you are the subject of an official investigation.