

# FRAUD AND SCAMS

## VETERANS BEWARE

Veterans and their families are targeted by scammers at significantly higher rates than non-Veterans.

**Veterans are twice as likely to fall victim to fraudsters.** Veterans tend to be more trusting of those they believe to be fellow members of the military, making them particularly vulnerable to impostor fraud and other types of scams.

**Veterans, be wary of PACT Act scammers.** The VA, American Legion, VFW, FBI, and AARP are warning Veterans that scammers are looking to cash in on their PACT Act benefits. The number of email phishing, scam phone calls and social media scams targeting Veterans has increased significantly as Veterans apply for PACT Act benefits.

Veterans do NOT need to pay for consultations or any other assistance to secure PACT Act, or any other benefits. Since the historic PACT Act of 2022 was signed into law, an onslaught of phishing, vishing and social media scams have targeted Veterans with the promise of help accessing PACT Act benefits, but for a charge.

Veterans and their spouses lost \$102 million to scammers (con artists) in 2020, \$257 million in 2021, and \$414 million in 2022, a dramatic increase in two years. Losses are likely much higher as many Veterans do not report their victimizations to authorities.

**Prevent Caregiver Fraud.** Hire home care wisely and protect loved ones from financial abuse.

Visit the AARP Veterans Fraud Center <https://www.aarp.org/lp/vets-fraud-center/>

\*The PACT Act is a new law, and the most significant expansion and extension of Veteran benefits, eligibility, and care in more than 30 years. If you were previously denied for benefits, reapply.

**Contact your County VA Office and Veteran Service Officers.** They provide accredited claims services (Health Care AND other benefits) for Veterans and their families, at **no charge**. [LINK](#)

Or call **800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838)** (the Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center.)

