



Contact: Malorie Kersten  
Public Relations Coordinator  
p: (517) 371-1100 x 208  
e: kerstenm@michiganworks.org

## Press Release

*For Immediate Release*

# Phone Scam Targets Michigan Works! Job Seekers

*Michigan Works! warns against new scam involving callers posing as Michigan Works! employees asking for personally identifiable information*

LANSING, Mich. (June 2, 2009) – Michigan Works! Association today warned customers to beware of a new telephone scam that uses the promise of a job as a lure for personal information.

Michigan Works! cautions customers to be on the lookout for phone calls that request personally identifiable information over the phone, including social security numbers, date of birth, address, or other contact information.

“Michigan Works! employees would never ask for any type of personal information over the phone,” said Luann Dunsford, chief executive officer, Michigan Works! Association. “Job seekers should not provide any kind of information to an unknown or unverified caller.”

The goal of the recent phone scam is to trick distressed job seekers into revealing personal and financial information, including bank account or credit card numbers, which the scammers can use to commit identity theft.

Contrary to what phone scammers say, they are not employed by Michigan Works! as Michigan Works! employees do not call customers to ask for personally identifiable information over the phone.

Recently, phone scammers initially identify themselves as an employee with Michigan Works!. After the introduction, the scammer may describe employment opportunities to the job seeker with a request for personal information needed for job consideration. If the victim refuses, they are told that they cannot receive any additional information about the job.

If you believe you are the victim of a scam, please contact your local authorities or call Michigan Works! Association (517) 371-1100 to report the scam.

Established in 1987, the Michigan Works! Association fosters high-quality employment and training programs serving employers and workers by providing support activities and a forum for information exchange for Michigan's workforce development system.

For more information, visit <http://www.michiganworks.org>, or call 517-371-1100.

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