



**Kenton Koszdin**  
LAW OFFICE

Se habla español **888.393.0954**



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KENTON KOSZDIN  
LAW OFFICE  
16600 Sherman Way,  
#190 Van Nuys,  
California 91406-3875  
Phone: (818) 901-9999  
Toll Free: (800) 438-7734

CONNECT ONLINE



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**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION BLOG**

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What's Happening....

## Don't Get Burned by Social Security Phishing Scam

There are criminals out there who will do anything to steal your identity or take your money from your bank accounts.

One of the latest scams is an email that looks to be from the Social Security Administration (SSA) which urges you to set up a "My Social Security Account" page at the Social Security website. The email looks authentic but it's not!



This is an example of a phishing scam. Phishing is an attempt via email to trick an email recipient into revealing personal information. A phishing email can also deceive you into downloading a "malicious file" by opening an attachment or clicking on a link. These files are harmful to you and your computer and may contain computer viruses, spyware, worms and Trojan horses - all designed to steal personal and bank account information.

### How Do I Know that an Email Is a Phishing Scam?

According to an SSA website, most emails that the SSA sends out will come from an email address that ends in ".gov" (for "government"). Don't open any attachments or click on links in emails that look to be from the SSA but whose address does **not** end in .gov.

Any picture, logo or link in the body of an official Social Security email will always point to an official Social Security website - you can check this without even clicking on the link. Just hover your mouse over the web address of the photo or link and you'll be able to read where the link will take you. Make sure it always ends in ".gov/" ending with a forward slash.

You can also detect phishing email scams by:

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## ....continued from page 1 **Don't Get Burned by Social Security...**

- Verifying the sender if you receive an email from a strange address. Hover your mouse over the sender's address to check its authenticity.
- Looking for misspelled words or poorly worded text.
- Confirming business information such as name, phone number and website link using a search engine.

Reputable public agencies and businesses won't ask for personal information in an email! Don't answer them.

You can learn more about the dangers of phishing messages at the Federal Trade Commission's OnGuard Online website.

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## From My Blog:

### Working While on Disability

Disability benefits are reserved for individuals who are too injured to work. Therefore, there are limitations on how much you can earn when applying for and while receiving disability benefits. While it may be tempting to try to return to work, you don't want to risk losing your Medicaid or Medicare eligibility. Read the rest>> <http://www.kentonslawoffice.com/blog/social-security-disability/working-while-disability/#more-723>



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## Intriguing Facts about Southern California

You might live in southern California all your life and never know everything about our fascinating area. Are any of these eye-openers for you?

- How do you define Southern California? The midpoint of California has been identified as just south of Madera on Highway 99. The location is marked by a symbolic palm tree signifying Southern California and an evergreen for Northern California.
- Southern California is full of ghost towns, long abandoned by their residents. Calico in nearby San Bernardino County has lots to offer in family-friendly entertainment.
- Our official state gem is benitoite, sometimes called the blue diamond, and is only found in California, Arkansas and Japan. You can mine for your own at the California State Gem Mine in Coalinga.
- Death Valley has the lowest elevation in all of North America - 282 feet below sea level. This fascinating national park holds the record for the highest reliably recorded air temperature in the **world** at 134°F on July 10, 1913! It's also the driest spot in the U.S. with an average rainfall of only 2.5" annually.



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## ....continued from page 2 **Intriguing Facts about Southern....**

- Between 1850 and 1920 many long piers were built along our coast for access to ships and to attract tourists with restaurants and entertainment. All of the remaining piers accessible to the public are open for fishing and many don't require a license for pier fishing.
- All Hass avocados, the most popular variety worldwide, descended from a single tree grown from a seed near Whittier. Enjoy the Fallbrook Avocado Festival every April.

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If you or a loved one has been denied Worker's Compensation or Social Security Disability (SSDI) benefits, it's important to get an attorney experienced in these types of cases involved immediately. Call **800-438-7734** for your initial free consultation, either in our office or in the comfort of your own home. The Kenton Koszdin Law Office, Social Security attorney in Van Nuys, can help you navigate the application process for the best possible outcome for you and your family.

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## **Recipe of the Month**

### **Grilled Pear-Cheddar Pockets**

Crunchy pear, sharp cheddar, and peppery arugula come together for a delicious and healthy sandwich.

#### **Ingredients**

- 2 teaspoons Dijon-style mustard
- 1/2 of a whole grain pocket thin flatbread
- 2 slices ultra-thin sharp or mild cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup arugula
- 1/3 of a medium red pear, cored and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices

#### **Directions**

1. Preheat a small covered indoor electric grill.\* Spread mustard over the interior surfaces of the pocket thin flatbread half. Arrange the cheese slices in the pocket, folding to fit. Add arugula and pear slices.
2. Place the flatbread half on the preheated grill and close.\* Grill about 1 1/2 minutes or until lightly toasted.



#### **Tip**

**\* If you do not have a covered indoor electric grill, place filled pocket in a preheated nonstick skillet and cook 2 to 4 minutes or until lightly toasted, turning pocket once.**

## Don't Get Burned by Social Security Phishing Scam



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## What's Happening in VanNuys & Southern California

### May 6

Lionel Richie Featuring Mariah Carey  
Hollywood Bowl  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/Ao09Vb>

### May 13

Billy Joel  
Dodger Stadium  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/6QRSVS>

### May 13

6th Annual West Coast BBQ Classic  
Queen Mary  
Long Beach, CA  
<https://goo.gl/EC55L1>

### May 16 - 31

The Jersey Boys  
Ahmanson Theater  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/b1fPtJ>

### May 20

Bryan Adams  
The Greek Theatre  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/qVQ1ZQ>

### May 21

Valley Asian Cultural Festival  
Tarzana Community & Cultural Center  
Tarzana, CA  
<https://goo.gl/Y3JN0N>

### May 28 - 29

John Legend  
The Greek Theatre  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/2XPYRM>

### May 30 - 31

The Book of Mormon  
Pantages Theater  
Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goo.gl/hJdhXC>