

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

February 6, 2014 — A Rural Development borrower in Texas was the victim of telephone fraud and lost \$450. The caller said he worked for USDA Rural Development and offered the borrower a loan modification. The borrower was advised that there was a \$450 processing fee that must be paid through a WalMart Green Dot money coupon. The phone number the caller used was (585) 310-3069. This is a [known scam](#) where the callers use different names and different banks through which to route the funds.

Rural Development employees who receive reports of similar calls/requests should inform borrowers that they are a scam and advise them not to pay. Borrowers who believe they have been contacted by a scammer should contact their [local Rural Development servicing office](#) so that our staff can report the incident to Federal security officials.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users)