

By Jan Schultz

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For just a one-time charge of \$398.25 and a monthly billing of \$9.95, local residents can get an EMS card so their medical information is readily available to emergency responders.

However, an Imperial resident who was contacted to buy the card last week hung up on them as soon as they asked where she banked.

That was probably the smart thing to do, according to Imperial EMS President Deb Hayes, who said she knows of no such “EMS card” in this area.

Shari Briggs said she received the call last Wednesday, but when the caller asked where her bank was, she felt something wasn’t right.

“But, they sounded so convincing,” Briggs said.

The caller said by getting such a card, at the above costs, her medical information would be compiled and then it could be provided to the local EMS for use if she ever needed an ambulance.

On Briggs’ caller ID, the name “EMT Medical” popped up, and the (408) area code listed as part of the phone number was from Scottsdale, AZ.

Briggs checked with EMS President Hayes last Thursday, who knew nothing about this supposed EMS card.

When Hayes googled the name, she found a lot of information about EMT Medical, and it wasn’t all good.

She noted that there are more credible ways the EMTs can get medical information about a patient. She also said a person’s medical history can change quickly. She believes the EMS card is a scam.

Briggs also checked with the hospitals in Imperial and Grant. No one there had heard of EMT Medical, or their service.