

Murphy Warns Connecticut Residents of Potential Census Scams

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HARTFORD, CT - As Connecticut and the nation gears up for the 2010 Census, Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) came to Hartford to warn Connecticut residents of potential scams surrounding this year's Census count. The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States and will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds over the next ten years for things like schools, hospitals, job training, transportation projects, and emergency services.

"Unfortunately, for all of the good that comes out of the Census for Connecticut, there will be a few bad apples who try to take advantage of this process. So we are here today to arm you with the information you need to protect yourself, and to encourage you to do your part to be counted so that we get our fair share," said Murphy.

Murphy is encouraging people to fill out the official Census form because undercounting could result in a community not receiving all the federal dollars that they should be entitled to based on their population. This could have a negative impact on such things as road repair and highway projects.

The Census questionnaire consists of ten basic questions, including how many people live in the residence, their age, sex, and date of birth.

To spot a Census scam, Murphy warned Connecticut residents that:

- No Census information will be taken over the internet;
- No Social Security numbers will be requested; and
- No bank account numbers will be requested.

Census forms will arrive in Connecticut mailboxes in March with a postage-paid envelope for return by April 1. Between April and July, Census takers visit households that did not return a form by mail, and those official Census staffers will only ask the ten questions on the government form. This process is expected to create 9,000 temporary jobs in Connecticut.

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