



Protecting Older Adults from Financial Scams

Every year, thousands of older Kansans become victims of financial exploitation, jeopardizing their financial independence.

What is Financial Exploitation?

Financial exploitation is the illegal or improper use of another person's money or property for personal profit or gain.

It's Your Right

Financial scammers are everywhere.

They will try to contact you by phone, through the internet, and in your mailbox.

It's your right not to engage. It's OK to hang up the phone, throw away a piece of mail, or simply say, "No, thank you."



Get more help online.
Scan the code to learn more!

Common Types of Scams

Sweepstakes, Lottery

- Requests payment in order to collect your winnings
- Pressure to donate immediately

Romance

- Requests payment to travel to visit or pay for phone plans to continue communicating

Tech Support

- Requests payment to fix non-existent technology issues

Government Impersonation

- Requests payment for fee, penalty, unpaid taxes, etc.
- Threats of prosecution for failure to pay

How to Protect Yourself

- **Resist pressure** to act quickly – a sense of urgency is a common scam tactic.
- **Never give out personal identifying information** over the phone, unless you initiated the call with a trusted organization.
- **Avoid any arrangement that asks you to pay up-front** via money order, wire transfer, international fund transfer, pre-loaded card, or electronic currency (i.e., bitcoin).
- If you do not recognize a telephone number on caller ID, **you do not have to answer the phone.** Legitimate callers will leave you a message. If you're unsure, look up the telephone number in a directory.
- If you received an email asking you to handle financial business via email, **contact the company's customer support through a verified website or phone number** and ask the company to verify the person as their employee.
- No legitimate law enforcement agency or business will ask you to pay for anything via gift card or cash. **NEVER mail or wire transfer money to anyone.**

REPORT IT: 1-800-922-5330