

PROTECT YOURSELF

Are you getting scammed? Here's how you can spot the signs of a potential scammer targeting you and what you can do to protect yourself.

- ◆ You won't! But did you enter a sweepstakes? You cannot win a sweepstakes you never entered. And remember: legitimate winnings never require a payment to be collected.
- ◆ Never click on unsolicited and random links you receive in emails or text messages. Check the phone number or email that sent the message for misspellings or strange area codes. If you aren't sure, always open a separate browser to log into your account and go directly to the company's website.
- ◆ If your password is "Password," you might want to update it. Never use the same password for more than one account and make sure your passwords are difficult to guess. Different passwords prevent scammers and hackers from getting into multiple accounts if your information is compromised. Taking advantage of 2-step authentication is an added step that will further protect your privacy.
- ◆ If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Never be afraid to ask for a second opinion or more information. Always trust your instincts.
- ◆ Do not allow anyone to rush you. Scammers will create a sense of urgency to get you to act. Request information and tell them you will call them back.
- ◆ Never wire money, provide debit, credit card, or bank account numbers to someone you do not know or met online.
- ◆ Homeowners should sign up on the Nassau County Clerk's website for Property Fraud Alerts, a free service that will send an electronic notification every time a land record document is recorded for your property.



Nassau County
District Attorney's Office
Criminal Complaint Unit

IN AN EMERGENCY, ALWAYS CALL 911

To report suspected financial abuse or scams to the District Attorney's Office, contact the Criminal Complaints Unit.



Contact Us:

Phone: 516-571-3505

Email: info@NassauDA.org

Web: Visit NassauDA.org



NASSAU COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
262 Old Country Road
Mineola, NY 11501



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM
ELDER FRAUD SCAMS



Anne T. Donnelly
District Attorney of
Nassau County

SCAMS

Don't fall victim to scammers. Here are some of the most common scams to avoid.



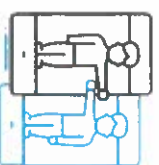
Homeowner Scams:

Scammers may contact you by mail, telephone, or by knocking on your door to offer you a financial solution to your foreclosure or default. Scammers may also forge your signature on a deed and file it with the county clerk.



Payment Scams:

Scammers list items for sale and require payment via gift cards, Venmo, Zelle, or other cash apps. Once payment is received, scammers will often demand more money claiming "shipping problems" and then never deliver the product.



Romance Scams:

Scammers create fake profiles on dating apps or social media to lure their targets. Con artists will research you online and use details that you've shared publicly to entangle you.



Grandparent Scams:

Fraudsters call claiming a victim's grandchild is in trouble or has been in an accident and needs money urgently then demand payments and secrecy.

Tech Support Scams:

Scammers may pose as tech support from well-known companies. They may email their targets and offer to resolve issues like compromised accounts or software license renewals. Once they convince victims to allow access, scammers gain control over the victims' computer.



Click Bait Scams:

In these scams, victims are directed to click a link that falsely suggests that an account has been breached or suspended, thanks a victim for paying a bill, or congratulates them for winning a prize.



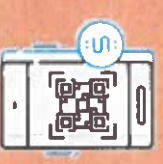
Government Imposter Scams:

Fraudsters contact older people claiming to be a representative from a well-known government agency like the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Social Security Administration, or Medicare.



Lost Number Scam:

Scammers pose as a friend or family member who lost access to their phone/email/social media account and ask for pin/access codes to be forwarded to them, or for other personal information. Never send this information in texts or emails.



Family/Caregiver Scams:

A friend, family member, or caregiver may forge the elder's signature on financial documents to transfer ownership of property, assets, or other valuable assets. Trusted people may convince you to change their wills, trusts, and sign over your homes and other assets to gain access to your finances.



Identity Theft:

Fraudsters may steal your personal information to gain access to your credit, bank accounts, medical care, or other aspects of your finances. With that information, they can apply for credit and potentially rack up huge debts without you knowing.



Investment Scams:

These scams will attempt to obtain your banking or personal information or convince you to invest in phony crypto currency. Victims believe they are getting incredible rates of return until they try to make a withdrawal and find out that their money was never really invested.



Car Dealer Scams:

Slick car salesmen are notorious for preying on seniors by adding unwanted options, service contracts, and exorbitant finance charges that were not part of the deal. Always review the paperwork before signing and taking delivery of a new car. Better yet, bring a trusted friend or family member with you.