

THE MORE YOU KNOW...

KNOWLEDGE TO COMBAT FRAUD SCHEMES

CHECK IN WITH YOUR PEERS ABOUT SCAMS!

Now that the holidays are over and you are getting back into your normal routine, why not check in with your peers about scams? You have the power to save them from losing their hard earned savings or from experiencing heartache.

So, what can you do to start the conversation with your peers about scams?

Educate yourself to help others!

The first step is to educate yourself about the red flags of scams. Reading this article series is a great start. If you use the internet, the Federal Trade Commission's website has some great resources regarding consumer fraud schemes and their red flags. The more you know, the more you can help others!

Start a conversation about scams!

Once you learn about the red flags of scams, start asking your friends, family members, and others you interact with about their experiences. An easy way to start the conversation would be, "Are you getting those annoying lottery winner calls, too?" or "Boy, I've gotten a lot of charity requests this year. You, too?" By talking about the scams, you not only are sharing information, but are also encouraging others to speak out about their experiences.

Be alert for signs of a scam!

If you see or hear of something that makes you think someone is involved in a scam, ask them about it!

Most importantly, if you do come across someone who is being victimized in a fraud scheme, encourage them to report their victimization!

For more resources, please visit
www.FTC.gov or www.postalinspectors.uspis.gov!

WANT TO REPORT A POSSIBLE FRAUD?

General Reports: Anti-Fraud Hotline (provided by the U.S. Senate Aging Commission) at 1.855.303.9470 or www.aging.senate.gov/fraud-hotline

International fraud scheme? International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN) at www.econsumer.gov

Telephone or online fraud scheme? Federal Trade Commission (877.FTC.Help), www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov or Internet Crime Complaint Center (www.ic3.gov)

Mail fraud scheme? United States Postal Inspection Service at 1.717.257.2330 or www.postalinspectors.uspis.gov

Scheme involving money sent with GreenDot, MoneyGram or Western Union?
Green Dot: 1.866.795.7597

MoneyGram: 1.800.MONEYGRAM or 1.800.666.3947

Western Union Fraud Hotline: 1.800.448.1492