Talk to people you trust.
Scammers often rely on secrecy to maintain control and avoid potential scrutiny.

Trust your instincts.
If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

Report suspected scams.
Reporting helps protect others in your community.

WARNING SIGNS OF S.C.A.M.S.

Sudden
Contact
Act Now
Money or Information Needed
Secret

If you suspect you have been scammed, file a report with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General at:

800-441-2555
scams@attorneygeneral.gov
www.attorneygeneral.gov

RPD/OS-10/26-AG

SCAM ALERT

SCAM PREVENTION TIPS

WHEN IN DOUBT - CHECK IT OUT

Dave Sunday
Pennsylvania Attorney General

Office of Attorney General
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



The best way to avoid being scammed is by slowing down and verifying that requests for information or money are legitimate. Taking a few extra minutes to confirm who you are dealing with can help protect your finances, identity, and peace of mind.

-- Dave Sunday
Attorney General

REMEMBER TO S.T.O.P.:

Slow down and Think before you act.

Don't let emotions, demands, or external pressure rush you to action.

Obtain verification for unexpected calls, emails, direct messages, or texts.

Contact the person or organization directly using a phone number or website you know is legitimate.

Protect your information.

Use strong, unique passwords and never share them - or other sensitive information like Social Security numbers, banking information, and Medicare numbers - with anyone.

Don't click on links received in pop-up ads or alerts.

Clicking on these links may allow scammers to access sensitive information or lead to fake websites designed to steal information.

Research unfamiliar charities, businesses, offers, and investment opportunities.

Check with a trusted friend, family member, or financial advisor.

Avoid unusual payment requests.

Legitimate organizations rarely ask you to pay using gift cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, or payment apps.

Be wary of prize and sweepstakes claims.

You should never have to pay a fee to collect a legitimate prize.

Monitor financial accounts regularly.

Review bank and credit card statements for unauthorized transactions.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WON'T THREATEN IMMEDIATE ARREST OR DEMAND PAYMENT OVER THE PHONE.

YOU CAN'T WIN A CONTEST YOU DIDN'T ENTER.

SCAM ALERT