York County
Elder Abuse Task Force

Fraud Alert Bulletin

January 2025

This is a Fraud Alert issued by the York County Elder Abuse Task Force.

Periodically, members of the Task Force, along with the York County District Attorney's office who prosecute these devastating financial crimes will offer warnings about the latest financial scams targeting seniors here in York County.

Educating seniors about financial fraud is a top priority of the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. With that in mind, we want every senior in York County to remember the **3 Rs:**
Recognize a potential scam;
Refuse to make any hasty decisions; and
Report suspicious activity to police.
Stay safe and feel free to contact Area Agency on Aging at 717 771 9610 or the District Attorney Dave Sunday at the District Attorney's Office (717-771-9600) with any questions.

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Advance Fee Scams

An advance fee scam is a type of fraud where a victim is asked to pay money upfront in exchange for something valuable, but then receives little to nothing in return. Scammers may promise a large sum of money in return for a small up-front payment or offer a loan or credit card without checking the victim's credit history.

Here are some signs of an advance fee scam:

- Upfront fees: The victim is asked to pay a fee before receiving a loan, credit card, or other benefit.
- No credit check: The scammer promises to approve the victim's application regardless of their credit history.
- Phone calls: The victim is contacted by phone to offer a loan or other benefit.
- Similar company name: The scammer's company name is similar a well-known company.

Ways to Protect Yourself.

- Research companies offering jobs on social media, including checking for a website or office address.
- Don't pay money to a company before starting a job.
- Be cautious of competitions or ads on social media that ask you to pay to enter.
- Question anything that seems too good to be true.
- Check if the lender is registered in your state.
- Contact your state attorney general or banking or financial services regulator to verify a lender's registration.