S.T.O.P.
SENIOR FRAUDS & SCAMS

Eras SENIOR NETWORK
engage. relate. advocate. support.

Tips to Stay Protected from Frauds and Scams

- Remember the acronym **S.T.O.P** to help you recognize and respond to scams
  - **S**: Sounds too good to be true? It likely IS too good to be true!
  - **T**: Time Pressure. Nobody should force you to make snap decisions.
  - **O**: Organize your thoughts and trust your gut.
  - **P**: DON'T be polite! Close the door, hang up the phone, delete the email.

- Identify a trustworthy person in your life who you can confide in about potential fraud or scam situations before you get involved.

- Do your research. Take time to learn about the situation and players involved when presented with a fishy opportunity *(ex. New charity asking for money, too-good-to-be-true sweepstakes offer, etc.)*

- Review your accounts and statements to catch any fraudulent activity early on.

- Never give out personal information over the phone or internet. Shred documents containing your personal information before disposing of them.

- If you suspect you have been a victim of a scam, document as much about the situation as you can and contact your local police department by calling their non-emergency number.

- Remember **you are not alone**. Scam artists are clever and have conned even the savviest of consumers! It's ok to talk to someone you trust for help.

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