

# GET INVOLVED, GET SAFE

## Financial Fraud & Scams



**Millions of older Americans lose money to financial fraud and scams each year.** Scammers will try to contact you in person, on the phone, through the computer, radio, TV ads, email, and text. They often pressure you to act quickly. But YOU have the power to stop these scammers and the right to say “NO”.

Five of the most common scams affecting older Americans are:



### Online Shopping

Scammers pretend to be a real business, but have a fake website or a fake ad on a genuine retailer site.



Tip

**Only click on links you searched for**



### Business Imposters

Scammers send emails or texts pretending to be a major retailer to get your money or personal information.



Tip

**Don't click on links in texts or emails before checking your account or contacting the company**



### Tech Support

Scammers pose as tech support and offer to fix computer problems that are not real. They ask you to give them access to your computer and steal your personal information.



Tip

**Accept tech support help only when you noticed a problem and you hired someone or asked for help**



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### Government Impersonation

Scammers pose as government employees and threaten to arrest or prosecute you unless you agree to pay them.

### Tip



**The federal government will never call you on the phone and ask for personal information or threaten you**



### Romance Scams

Scammers pose as interested romantic partners and convince you to give them money or offer to send you money in order to steal your personal information.

### Tip



**Do not send or receive money in any form (like gift cards or wire transfers) from anyone you have met online, no matter how sad or convincing their story**

**One of the best ways to avoid financial fraud is to know the scams.  
Learn about types of financial scams at  
[consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts](https://consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts) or [elderjustice.gov/senior-scam-alert](https://elderjustice.gov/senior-scam-alert)**



### GET HELP

Call the Elder Fraud Hotline at **833-372-8311**

*Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. eastern time*

English/Español/Other languages available

This free resource is staffed by experienced case managers who provide support but do not investigate cases.



Visit the Elder Justice Website  
[elderjustice.gov](https://elderjustice.gov)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**Elder Justice**  
INITIATIVE

