

# Elder Investment Fraud

## Louisiana Office of Financial Institutions (OFI)

is committed to educating and protecting Louisiana's seniors from falling victim to investment fraud scams.

Learn more about senior investor protection at

[www.ofi.la.gov/SecuritiesInvestorEd.htm](http://www.ofi.la.gov/SecuritiesInvestorEd.htm)



## Wake Up

You are more vulnerable than you think: one in five investment fraud victims is 65 or older. Most victims knew *more* about investments than people who never fell for scams, dispelling the myth that fraud victims are uneducated about investing.

## Wise Up

You may be targeted, but you don't have to become a victim. Seniors can always learn more about recognizing the red flags of an investment scam and how to avoid them. Visit OFI's website for monthly updates on alerts and practical tools to help investors recognize fraud.

## Check Up

Ninety per cent of investment fraud cases are due to unregistered investment professionals selling unregistered securities. Each should be registered with OFI, unless either qualifies for an Exemption to registration. This includes sales of out-of-state investments to Louisiana residents. A quick call to OFI to verify that the promoter and the security are registered is a simple way to avoid these sources of investment fraud.

Upon written request, OFI will send free background checks called *CRD Reports* on investment professionals who are registered with OFI. *CRD Reports* include information on the promoter's: Background, Certifications, Criminal History, Pending Arbitrations and Employment History, including termination reasons, disciplinary actions and customer complaints.

Email, mail or fax a *confidential* request for your free *CRD Report*.

Email: [complaints@ofi.la.gov](mailto:complaints@ofi.la.gov)

Fax: (225) 925-4511

Address: 8660 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

## Step Up

Report fraud to OFI! Failure to report scams allows criminals to continue to victimize more investors. OFI's *Complaint* form is available on OFI's website. The completed form may either be mailed or faxed to OFI to initiate a confidential investigation into the matter.

**Office of Financial Institutions (OFI)**  
Call toll-free at 1-877-516-3653 or 225- 925-4512