



A Program with the
Colorado Attorney General
and the AARP Foundation



Colorado Attorney General
John W. Suthers



Better Business Bureau
serving Colorado



Working Together as a Family to Avoid Scams in the New Year

Unlike decades ago, gone are the days when a handshake consummated a trustworthy deal. Scammers have become so creative that before one scheme is fully uncovered, others have already begun circulating. The old adage of 'two eyes (ears) are better than one', however, does still hold true. Here are a few suggestions for helping to protect your loved ones, and yourself, as we head into a new year.

- Keep the lines of communications open. Be gentle and sensitive when presenting information. Pass along facts on one or two relevant scams at a time making sure the information provided is understood. Be sure not to present the information in a way that may be interpreted as telling your loved ones what to do or implies in any way that they are naive. Scammers discriminate against no one.
- Practice how to handle unsolicited phone calls, mail, or door-to-door sales people. Offer a refusal script they can place by the phone or door.
- Caution your loved ones not to sign anything without allowing a trusted individual to review first. One sure sign of a scam is if you're being pressured for an immediate signature.
- Encourage the reporting of a crime. There is no disgrace in this. Reporting will help to stop the scammers.

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