

# REPORT FRAUD

Have you been defrauded?  
Have you been scammed?

## ASK FOR HELP

### Financial Regulation Vermont

Non-Toll Free: 802-828-3307

Toll Free: 833-337-4685

[https://dfr.vermont.gov/consumers/  
file-complaint/banking](https://dfr.vermont.gov/consumers/file-complaint/banking)

### Consumer Assistance Program (CAP)

800-649-2424

<https://ago.vermont.gov/cap>

### Adult Protective Services

800-564-1612

<https://dlp.vermont.gov/aps>

### FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center

<https://www.ic3.gov/>

### Federal Trade Commission

<https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>

▲ Romance Scams

▲ Government &  
Tech Impostors

▲ Grandparent Scam

▲ Report Fraud



# AVOID SCAMS *and* FRAUD





## ROMANCE SCAMS

- Go slowly and ask lots of questions.
- Research the person's profile.
- Beware if the person is too perfect.
- Involve friends and family in your new relationships.
- Keep your financial information private.
- Never send money to anyone you have only communicated with online or by phone.

## IMPOSTOR SCAMS

Criminals impersonate government officials, legal authorities, and computer tech support. They alert of a problem that must be addressed, such as a criminal violation, pending legal action, or a computer virus. They may threaten arrest.

- **Be wary of demands for prepaid cards, wire transfers, or cash to be mailed or sent overnight.**
- **Impersonators often spoof actual phone numbers. The numbers on your caller ID may be manipulated.**
- **Government officials and tech support will not contact an individual by phone to notify of an investigation against you or alert you of activity on your computer.**
- **Take steps to verify interactions with unsuspected contacts by connecting with a trusted source.**

## GRANDPARENT SCAMS

- Take a pause. Scammers create a sense of urgency to prey on emotions.
- Don't be fooled by the caller's emotion.
- Confirm the story.
- Ask questions that only the real family member would know.
- Set Facebook and other social media settings to private.
- Never purchase pre-paid debit cards for the purpose of transferring money.



**Each year, millions of Americans are involved in some type of financial fraud scheme. Our goal is to protect Vermonters.**