



**We're here
for you.**



The Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center is an initiative of the Older and Disabled Adult Services (ODAS) Bureau of Solano County Health and Social Services, in partnership with local partners.

It is the mission of ODAS to provide access to services and resources that sustain health and well-being, support independent lifestyles, and promote physical safety and emotional security for older and disabled adults and children in Solano County.

ODAS is Solano County's primary adult advocacy agency, responsible for Adult Protective Services (APS), In-Home Support Services (IHSS), IHSS Fraud Investigations, Public Guardian and the Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging.

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Watch out! Scammers can be found anywhere you go. Luckily, you have the power to stop them.

Scams can take many forms, from simple attempts such as spam emails, to highly sophisticated "sweetheart" operations that take advantage of people's good humor and generosity.

Learn how to identify, stop and report common scams within this brochure or by visiting **SolanoScamCenter.org**.

How to Prevent Scams & Senior Fraud



Resources from the Solano Senior Fraud Prevention Center



You have the power to stop scammers.

SolanoScamCenter.org

5 Tips to Stop Scammers

1. Double-check the source of “government” communications

The Social Security Administration, IRS, VA, Medicare and California Franchise Tax Board never threaten criminal action, demand an immediate payment or ask for personal information. If a letter from one of these agencies looks suspicious, call their official phone number to verify.

2. Watch for fake social media identities & “sweetheart” scams

It’s easy to create a fake social media account. All a criminal needs is a photo and a name to replicate someone’s identity on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and dating sites. Then, they can send a message to all your friends asking for money, a donation—or even a date! Always check with friends via phone to verify their identity and take new relationships slow before sharing intimate information or money.

3. Monitor your finances and protect your Power of Attorney

While we all want to trust our family and friends, some have been caught withdrawing from loved ones’ bank accounts or filing fraudulent power of attorney documents. Check your bank accounts for suspicious charges often and report them to the bank or police.

4. Bring skepticism to every prize or investment offer

If it’s too good to be true, it probably is. If you’ve been offered a “rare investment opportunity” or “won a big prize,” be skeptical. No legitimate sweepstake requires you to pay any funds up front—taxes are always paid on your tax return. All investments hold risks, but those promising “huge returns” are often scams.

5. Be wary of “urgent” notices that claim something has been “compromised”

If an email, text or pop-up notification on your computer asks you to click a link to remove a virus or secure a bank account, double-check the communication is real.

If an email, it should come from your bank’s domain (i.e., @chase.com) not a personal email address (@yahoo.com) or a lookalike (@chase.net). Don’t respond or click on a texted link, instead, call your bank to follow up.

If a pop-up, close it or your browser, then access your anti-virus software directly to follow up. Most importantly, never share your Social Security number or credit card information with anyone.



Get Help

Multiple government agencies at the local, county, state and federal levels are on call to take your reports and seek justice. What’s more, dedicated county social workers are available to help manage the financial and legal fallout of a scam.

Learn how to report a crime or get assistance recuperating losses at [SolanoScamCenter.org](https://www.solanoscamcenter.org).

If in an emergency, call 911. Otherwise, call one of the local numbers listed below.

Benicia Police: (707) 745-3411

Dixon Police: (707) 678-7070

Fairfield Police: (707) 428-7300

Rio Vista Police: (707) 374-2300

Suisun Police: (707) 421-7373

Vacaville Police: (707) 449-5200

Vallejo Police: (707) 648-4321

Solano Sheriff: (707) 784-7000

(For Unincorporated Areas)