

TRANSNATIONAL SCAMS – EDUCATION AND REPORTING

1. Consumer Fraud and Elder Fraud Education and Resources

- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): www.fbi.gov
FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3): www.ic3.gov
- Federal Trade Commission: www.ftc.gov
- AARP Fraud Watch Network: www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork;
AARP Fraud Helpline: 1-877-908-3360 or www.aarp.org/fraudhelpline
- DOJ Elder Justice Initiative: www.justice.gov/elderjustice (includes fraud trainings you can use to educate others about scams)
- National Elder Fraud Hotline (US DOJ): 1-833-FRAUD-11 (1-833-372-8311) (Monday through Friday, 7:00 am PST to 3:00 pm PST): National federal hotline for adults 60 and over to report fraud and providing support and resources/safety tips. Provides help with filing IC3 and FTC complaints. Many languages. <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope>

II. Reporting Fraud – If you suspect you are a victim of an online fraud or scam:

- **If you wired money (esp. if within 72 hours): Notify your BANK IMMEDIATELY** – bank may be able to freeze funds before scammer withdraws them.
- **File a complaint on the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3):** <https://www.ic3.gov>
For assistance with filing an IC3 complaint, call National Elder Fraud Hotline- see above.
- **If you suspect you are a victim of a Cryptocurrency/Pig Butchering Scam:**
 - Notify your bank immediately.
 - Contact your local police department and file a police report.
 - File a complaint with IC3 (see above); for FBI Guidance For Cryptocurrency Scam Victims in Completing IC3 report: <https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA230824>
 - Also report to cryptofraud@ussf.dhs.gov and the US Secret Service will refer your email to an appropriate field office for immediate action
- Federal Trade Commission (FTC): www.ReportFraud.ftc.gov
- Better Business Bureau: www.bbb.org/scamtracker and Scam Survival Toolkit: <https://scamsurvivaltoolkit.bbbmarketplacetrust.org/>

III. Newsletters – News, Trends, Arrests and Prosecutions re: Transnational Scams

- AARP Fraud Watch Network Alerts: AARP@email.aarp.org
- Federal Trade Commission: subscribe@subscribe.ftc.gov
- Baker Fraud Report: steve@bakerfraudreport.com

Free National Online Victim Support Programs

Experiencing a fraud may be devastating and traumatic, but there is help and support to assist in the aftermath. These programs provide a safe place for fraud victims to share their experiences and helpful resources with each other. **Each of these free programs require registration to ensure the safety of participants.**

- **AARP ReST Program**

<https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/voa-rest-program/>

- “ReST” stands for Resilience, Strength and Time. This free program is designed to address the emotional impact of financial fraud, and offers facilitated peer discussion groups that seek to provide emotional support for victims and others in similar situations. Family members are invited to participate at the victim’s discretion. The one-hour group is held several times during the week and available once you register.

- **Cybercrime Support Network**

<https://fightcybercrime.org/programs/peer-support/>

- To support individuals impacted by romance imposter scams, Cybercrime Support Network offers a free, confidential, 10-week virtual, one-hour weekly sessions, Peer Support Program for romance scam survivors. The licensed counselor-led sessions provide a safe virtual environment for individuals to work through the loss, embarrassment, and isolation that can accompany romance scams. Education on cybercrime and online safety practices are included.

- **Give An Hour**

<https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/>

- To support financial fraud crime victims, GiveAnHour provides a free monthly support group for victims of financial fraud, using trained peer supporters who are individuals with lived experience who lead peer support groups both with the organization and in their communities, supervised by a licensed professional counselor.

Residents of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties

- **Wise and Healthy Aging ‘Safe Relationships Support Program’**

- This is a 12-week free virtual program open to Los Angeles and San Bernardino County residents, 60 and older. Contact them at 310-394-9871 ext. 423 for more information.