

# PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM FRAUD

STATISTICS SHOW THAT FRAUD IS THE NUMBER ONE CRIME AGAINST SENIORS. PROTECT YOURSELF FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF FRAUD BY FOLLOWING SOME **QUICK TIPS.**

## TIP #1

**Never give personal information to someone on the phone unless you know the person or initiated the call.** If a caller asks for personal information such as a social security number, bank account information, or credit card, say "no thanks" and hang up the phone.

## TIP #2

**Do not let the caller rush you into making a decision right then and there.** If they say it is a limited-time offer, tell them you want to think it over for a day or two. If they say you will not have the offer if you do not take it immediately, say "no thanks," and hang up the phone.

## TIP #3

A caller may say that you are the winner of a prize, but you have to pay a handling charge or taxes on the prize. **You should never have to pay to receive a prize.**

## TIP #4

It can be difficult to understand the details of an offer over the phone. **Ask the caller to mail you the materials.** If they are unwilling to mail you the materials, say "no thanks" and hang up.

**IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF FRAUD, PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE AND/OR A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT ASSISTS SENIORS.**

**REMEMBER:** Always TAKE TIME in making a decision to purchase or participate in a program that requires you to pay out money.

**REMEMBER:** You have a right to say, "NO THANKS," and hang up the phone.

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