

**Office of the District Attorney  
Santa Clara County**

**REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE TO:**

- ❖ **ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES: 408-975-4900**  
(or outside Santa Clara County: 1-800-414-2002)
- ❖ **IF IN A NURSING FACILITY, LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN:**  
408-944-0567 OR 1-800-231-4024
- ❖ **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (CITY POLICE DEPT. OR SHERIFF- 911)**

For additional questions, call the DA's Office Elder Fraud Unit  
Cherie Bourlard, DDA 792-2519  
Janet Berry, DDA 792-2790  
David Ocampo, Senior Paralegal 408-792-2579

**PROTECT YOURSELF FROM:**

**IDENTITY THEFT**

- ✓ FREE annual credit report – call toll free 1-877-322-8228 or visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)
- ✓ Remove your name from mailing lists - mail the form or a letter with the name and address you want removed from direct marketing lists and a \$1 check or money order to:  
Mail Preference Service  
P.O. Box 282  
Carmel, NY 10512
- ✓ Opt out of pre-approved credit card applications – call 1-888-567-8688
- ✓ If a victim of ID theft, file a police report and report to the Federal Trade Commission 1-877-438-4338 or [www.ftc.gov/ftc/consumer.htm](http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/consumer.htm)

**TELEMARKETERS, INTERNATIONAL LOTTERY SCAMS, E-MAIL SCAMS**

**Note:** The Federal Trade Commission is the gateway for consumer information and for reporting identity theft and scams [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) (Consumer Protection tab)

- ✓ National Do Not Call Registry – call toll free 1-888-382-1222 (TTY1-866-290-4236) or visit [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)
- ✓ Report scams to the Federal Trade Commission – 1-877-382-4357
- ✓ Report Canadian lottery scams to Phonebusters – 1-888-495-8501
- ✓ Online scam and spam information – [www.spamhaus.org](http://www.spamhaus.org)
- ✓ Online safety - <http://www.onguardonline.gov/>

# Office of the District Attorney Santa Clara County

## **MORTGAGE RESCUE - STOP FORECLOSURE SCAM**

- ✓ The Federal Trade Commission has a web site with information on “mortgage rescue” and “stop foreclosure” scams:

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/moneymatters/scam-watch.shtml>

## **REVERSE MORTGAGE INFORMATION (benefits and pitfalls)**

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hecm/hecmhome.cfm>

<http://www.reversemortgagedisadvantage.com/>

## **INVESTMENT AND ANNUITY SCAMS**

- ✓ Check with Seniors Against Investment Fraud, California Department of Corporations before investing – 1-866-275-2677 or (TTY 1-800-735-2922) or [www.corp.ca.gov/Education\\_Outreach/saif](http://www.corp.ca.gov/Education_Outreach/saif)
- ✓ Be wary of anything that requires immediate action; never meet with sales persons alone in your home; do not sign anything without checking with your attorney, accountant, stockbroker, or financial advisor
- ✓ Annuities are complex financial products and are not always appropriate for seniors; salespeople make large commissions; check out the agent with The California Department of Insurance - 1-800-927-4357 or [www.insurance.ca.gov](http://www.insurance.ca.gov)
- ✓ Be wary of “free living trust seminars.” The goal is often to sell you annuities. Check out an attorney with the State Bar of California – 1-800-843-9053 or at [www.calbar.ca.gov](http://www.calbar.ca.gov) and get information from the State Bar’s Senior Information Hotline – 1-888-460-7364
- ✓ Check out your real estate broker with the Department of Real Estate – 916-227-0931 or visit [www.dre.ca.gov](http://www.dre.ca.gov)

## **SOCIAL SECURITY**

- ✓ Social Security Administration fraud hotline – 1-800-269-0271 (TTY 1-866-501-2101)
- ✓ Do not carry your Social Security card in your wallet
- ✓ Some government agencies require your SSN – DMV, welfare offices, tax agencies, and some financial institutions

## **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**To check for new docs by party name - [scccseinfo.org](http://scccseinfo.org)**

# Office of the District Attorney Santa Clara County

## **CONTRACTORS**

- ✓ Check out your contractor with the Contractor's State License Board – 1-800-321-2752 or [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov)

**NEVER GIVE YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS OR ACCOUNT NUMBERS TO CALLERS OR IN RESPONSE TO E-MAILS**

**CHECK CREDENTIALS AND CONSULT YOUR ATTORNEY OR ACCOUNTANT BEFORE COMMITTING OR SIGNING ANYTHING**

**More great information on scams**

**Aarp.org**

**<http://www.nabihq.org>**

**snopes.com**

**scambusters.org**

**Information on Elder abuse**

**<http://ag.ca.gov/bmfea/publications.php>**

**Keep by your phone**

**Police Emergency – 911**

**P G & E- 1-800-743-5000**

**San Jose Water Company --(408) 279-7900, emergency, press “9”**

**Your phone/ cable/ internet company \_\_\_\_\_**

**Other emergency numbers \_\_\_\_\_**

**Friends/ relatives I can call when I wonder if something is a scam**

---

---

---

---