

Investment & Insurance Fraud



- Get a referral or reference:
 - Never respond to a cold call or “free dinner” – nothing is free.
 - Ask someone you trust who they work with.
- Have a goal in mind before you talk with an investment or insurance professional:
 - Do you have a rate of return goal?
 - Short or long-term commitment?
 - Are taxes a concern?
 - Risk level?
- Interview at least two people:
 - Get comfortable with the person you work with.
 - Understand how they get paid to work with you.
- Websites like FINRA’s BrokerCheck offer information on the investment professional you are considering working with.
 - This website gives education & business background as well as any past regulatory issues with the representatives.
- Ask questions:
 - Try to understand as much as you can.
 - Trust, but verify.
- Never purchase something out of fear!
 - Don’t let someone scare or intimidate you into buying something.
 - Invest or buy insurance based on how it helps you, not because you are scared of the alternative.
- Never make a check out to a “person”:
 - Always make any check or payment out to a company and not a person.
- Always get a confirmation statement sent to you and make sure you understand the statement.
- Request internet accessibility on your accounts.
- If it’s too good to be true, it probably is.

Sources:

[1] FINRA: *Avoiding Investment Scams* <http://www.finra.org/investors/alerts/avoiding-investment-scams>

[2] BrokerCheck <https://brokercheck.finra.org/>

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Additional Resources

Cedar Rapids Police Department

505 1st St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 286-5375 ext. 5485
www.cedar-rapids.org/police

Crime Stoppers

1-(800) -272-7463

Cedar Rapids Fire Department

713 1st Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 286-5200 – Main Number
(319) 286-5277 – Public Educator
www.cedar-rapids.org/government/departments/fire

Marion Police Department

6315 US-151
Marion, IA 52302
(319) 377-1511
www.cityofmarion.org/departments/police-department

Marion Fire Department

3933 Katz Drive
Marion, IA 52302
(319) 377-8237
www.cityofmarion.org/departments/fire-department

Hiawatha Police Department

101 Emmons St.
Hiawatha, IA 52233
(319) 393-1212

Linn County Sherriff's Office

P.O. Box 669, 310 2nd Avenue SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406
(319) 892-6100
www.linncounty.org

Mount Vernon Police Department

213 1st St NW
Mount Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 895-6141
www.cityofmtvernon.com

Linn County Emergency Management

6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 892-6500
<http://www.linncounty-ema.org>

Aging Services

317 7th Ave SE Suite 302B
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 398-3644
www.agingservicesia.org

Heritage Area Agency on Aging

6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 398-5559
www.HeritageAAA.org

Horizons: A Family Service Alliance

819 5th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
(319) 398-3943
www.horizonsfamily.org

LifeLong Links

(Families & Caregivers can get info on services for older adults & persons with disabilities age 18+)
(866) 468-7887
www.lifelonglinks.org

AARP

(866) 554-5378
www.aarp.org/ia

United Way of East Central Iowa

317 7th Avenue SE Suite 401
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 398-5372
<http://www.uweci.org/>

