

Are **you** a target for investment fraud?

 $\sqrt{\text{Age 48+}}$ Active church member OR social club member

 $\sqrt{}$ Recent retiree $\sqrt{}$ Have above-average knowledge of investments

 $\sqrt{}$ Getting divorced $\sqrt{}$ Attending free meal investment seminars

 $\sqrt{}$ Experienced a recent death of a loved one $\sqrt{}$ Recent illness, natural disaster or financial setback

 $\sqrt{}$ Expecting an inheritance or cash settlement $\sqrt{}$ Confident in investments

If you're a target, it's important to know that investment professionals and the investments they sell are required by law to be either *registered* with the Louisiana <u>Office</u> of <u>Financial</u> Institutions (OFI) or *exempt* from registration with OFI. Verify with OFI *before* you invest!

Call OFI at 1-877-516-3653 (free call) OR (225) 925-4512

- 1. Call OFI to verify that both your investment professional <u>and</u> the potential investment are registered to be sold in Louisiana. This includes *out-of-state* solicitations.
- 2. Submit a written request to OFI for a **confidential background check** (i.e., *CRD Report*) **at no charge** on investment professionals registered with OFI, covering their:
 - Background
 - Certifications
 - Criminal History
- Employment History, including:
 Terminations, Disciplinary Actions & Customer Complaints
- Pending Arbitrations

For fastest service:

- Ask investment professionals for their personal CRD Numbers OR their legal names.
- ➤ Email a confidential request to <u>BackgroundCheck@ofi.la.gov</u> OR mail the request to the address below.
- 3. Ask about exemptions to registration with OFI and suspicious investments.

NO investment advice given or products sold!

Office of the Governor Louisiana Office of Financial Institutions (OFI) 8660 United Plaza Building, 2nd Floor

8660 United Plaza Building, 2nd Floor Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-7024

Visit Investor Awareness for free investment fraud information and resources.