



Top 10 Tips for Seniors to Protect Themselves From Scams

The IRS does not call taxpayers. The Social Security Administration does not make phone calls. Both government agencies send letters by mail only.



Never give your Social Security Number to ANY caller, no matter who they say they are.



Do not let “tech support” remote in to your computer to fix a problem, even if they appear to be from a reputable company or computer brand.



Never click on links in an e-mail unless you know the sender, were expecting the e-mail, and verified the e-mail address of the sender. Hover your mouse over the email address and the link. Make sure that the link leads to a legitimate, safe website that corresponds with the content in the email.



Never give your Social Security number, bank account numbers/routing numbers, credit card numbers or other personal financial information via e-mail.



Do not purchase gift cards as a form of payment and provide the card’s PIN number.



Verify information provided by callers. If they say a loved one is in jail and needs bail money, hang up and call that loved one to verify the information.



Do not believe promises of prizes; do not pay a sum of money or provide personal or financial information in order to claim lottery or contest winnings. If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Verify any offers of discounts or promotions by contacting the organization directly.



Utility companies do not offer to come to your house to pick up cash for outstanding bills.



The IRS does not call to demand immediate payment or threaten to call law enforcement regarding an outstanding tax bill. Hang up and contact your accountant or tax preparer if you have questions.



Never click on a link to “unlock” a “frozen” bank account due to unusual activity. Instead, call or visit your bank to see if there is, in fact, a problem with your account.

Have you or a loved one fallen victim to a senior scam? With offices in Melville and Port Jefferson Station, Cona Elder law is here to help you. Contact our Senior Scam Practice Group today by calling **631.390.5000** or sending a message to **elder@conalaw.com**.