



CONSUMER FRAUD BULLETIN

Brought to you by Colorado Attorney General John Suthers

Summer 2013

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Knock Knock—Avoiding Door To Door Scams



As the warm weather has returned to Colorado, so too have Door-to-Door Scammers looking to make a quick buck from unsuspecting residents. Unscrupulous sales agents traveling from door-to-door have been known to use deceptive, high pressure sales tactics to get people to purchase expensive, and sometimes substandard, products and services. Some of the most common door-to-door schemes involve Magazine Sales, Traveling Contractors, Home Alarm System Sellers, and Meat Sellers. [Click here for tips to help you avoid falling for door-to-door schemes.](#)

Dodging Timeshare Troubles



As vacation ownership options increase in popularity, more and more consumers are falling victim to the various scams targeting timeshare owners, defrauding consumers of millions nationwide. Most buyers don't realize the value of these options lies in their use as vacation destinations, not necessarily as investments. Due to the availability of vacation ownership options, the resale value is likely to be lower than the purchase price. This leaves consumers open to considering a deal that may be too good to be true. Interested timeshare owners who engage the scammers will often receive what appears to be legitimate documentation for the sale. The scammers even create official looking web sites, company letter head, and post office box addresses in an effort to conceal their actual identities and locations.

[Click Here to read how to avoid falling victim to Timeshare Resale Scams.](#)

Recognizing Investment Schemes



Knowing how to secure your financial well-being is crucial in today's society, and investment decisions should not be taken lightly. Scammers have conned an overwhelming number of people out of their hard earned money and sometimes take their entire life savings. Promoters of alternative investment or money-making opportunities will make their deals seem to good to be true. Unfortunately, most are. The Federal Trade Commission warns consumers not to do business with someone who tries to sell you a 'sure thing'. The truth is, the higher the potential reward, the higher the risk. [Click here to learn more about avoiding Common Investment and Money-making Schemes from the FTC.](#)

BBB Warns of Roofing Contractor Scams



Colorado's Front Range is located in the heart of "Hail Alley" and the 2008-09 historic storms brought roofers from all over the country to repair damaged roofs – or take advantage of homeowners. Consumers have reported heartbreaking stories of paying large sums of money upfront to get a roofing job started, only to receive nothing in return. The usual scenario: a storm chaser knocks on someone's door shortly following a hailstorm and pressures them into signing a contract. The contract requires a large upfront fee – if not the homeowner's entire insurance check – to be paid before work begins. The check is cashed immediately and the roofer never shows up and does not respond to voice mails or emails leaving the consumer without a new roof and no insurance money. [Click here to read BBB Tips on Hiring a Reputable Roofer.](#)

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