

3 Scams to Watch Out For!

Crooks try to defraud millions of people every year. They always want to get people to send money or give out personal information. Here are some common scams and how you can avoid being a victim!



1 SWEEPSTAKES SCAMS

In this scam, the scam artist makes you think you have won a great prize or sweepstake. However, there is a catch: to claim your prize, you need to pay some fee or purchase some merchandise. There is no prize, the criminal pockets the fee. Buying merchandise from a company that uses sweepstakes as a promotion does not really improve your chances of winning.



2 TELEMARKETING SCAMS

To protect your pocketbook here are three questions you should ask about telemarketers. Does the caller refuse to give you time to make up your mind about the offer? Does the caller refuse to mail you information? Does the caller pressure you for your credit card number? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, hang up on phone fraud! To stop telemarketing calls register at www.donotcall.com.



3 CHARITY SCAMS

Unfortunately sometimes scam artists will make you think you are giving to a good cause but the result is that the money goes to them! You may receive phone calls seeking donations for everything from helping veterans to aiding injured animals. Be a cautious consumer and find out how much of the money you give goes for a charitable purpose and how much goes to the cost of fundraising. Check out the charity at charitynavigator.org.

Information from WA Atty. Gen. Offc.

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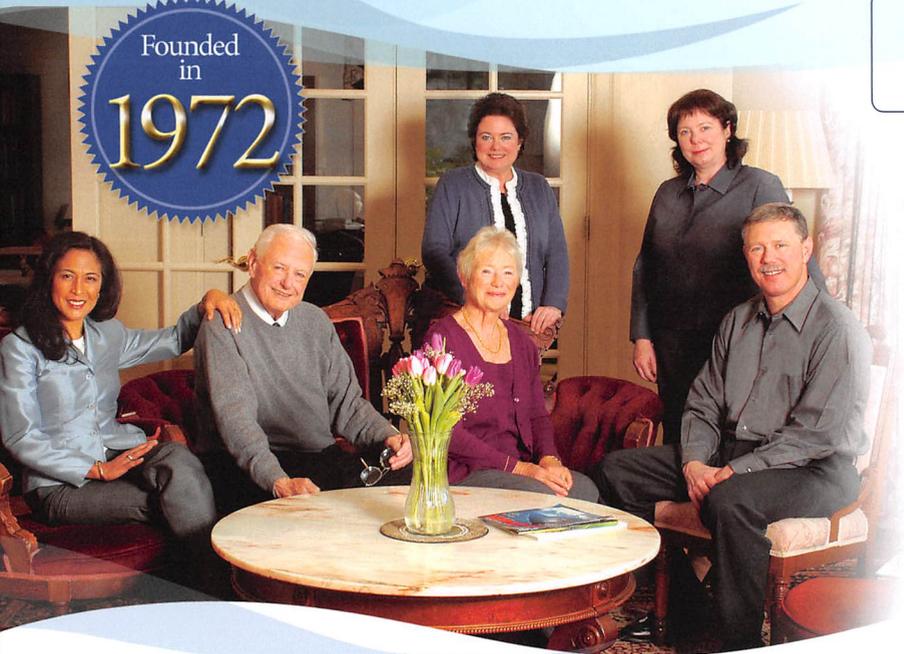
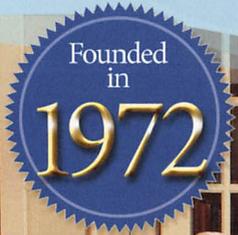
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