



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

In recognition of October as “National Crime Prevention Month” the Yolo County District Attorney’s Office will be providing useful tips each week from different units.

The Elder Protection Unit recommends the following tips to help keep you safe:

- 1) Remember that using a wire transfer service like Western Union or MoneyGram is like sending cash and that the sender has no protection against loss. Con artists often insist using this method to send money out of the Country because it’s nearly impossible to reverse the transaction or trace the money.
- 2) Never respond to a request for your personal information until you independently validate who is really calling and why they need it. Don’t click on links in an unsolicited “pop-up” computer message or respond to a text or phone call. Call the bank or Credit Card Company by using the phone number on your statement or in the phone book.
- 3) Be very cautious about being approached by a stranger in parking lots. Many common fraud scams including phony bank examiner, lottery winner, sweetheart swindle and car dent repairs start this way. Victims often lose thousands of dollars to crooks this way. If you can safely get a car license number to report that can often be helpful for investigators.
- 4) Help fight Medical Identity Theft by carefully guarding your Social Security and Medicare numbers, reviewing your medical bills and investigating suspicious charges. Hang up on telemarketers claiming to need your personal information for billing.

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