

## How to **AVOID GETTING SCAMMED:**

- ❏ **Hang up** - *If you receive a suspicious call, simply hang up and check it out. Don't ask the person on the phone if they are a scammer (Hint: they will lie to you)! You won't be arrested if you hang up.*
- ❏ **Check it out** - *Do your research, professionals will always allow consumers time to research and compare before they have to act/buy. Contact Consumer Protection at 701-328-3404 or 1-800-472-2600.*
- ❏ **Resist Pressure to act immediately** - *Scammers pressure you to create panic and act immediately in order to cash in on your confusion and lack of research.*
- ❏ **STOP and talk to someone you trust** - *All legitimate transactions will allow you to discuss the matter with others, including your bank.*
- ❏ **Know how scammers tell you to pay** - *No legitimate business transaction will ever make you mail cash, pay with cryptocurrency, or buy a gift card.*
- ❏ **Trust your intuition** - *Listen to your gut! If it doesn't feel right, don't do it!*
- ❏ **Never respond to a computer pop up warning** - *Computer warnings that pop up on your screen with a number to call are always a scam. Shut off the computer and restart it. If the problem still exists, take it to someone local that you trust.*
- ❏ **Trust your Financial Institution** - *ALWAYS trust your bank over the stranger on the phone!*
- ❏ **Don't Lie** - *If someone has told you what to say as a cover story for your behavior/purchase/withdrawal - IT IS A SCAM!*
- ❏ **If it sounds too good to be true - IT IS!**