How to AVOID GETTING SCAMMED:

1. **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.

2. **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.

3. **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.

4. **STOP and talk to someone you trust** - All legitimate transactions will allow you to discuss the matter with others, including your bank.

5. **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.

6. **Trust your intuition** - Listen to your gut! If it doesn’t feel right, don’t do it!

7. **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.

8. **Trust your Financial Institution** - ALWAYS trust your bank over the stranger on the phone!

9. **Don’t Lie** - If someone has told you what to say as a cover story for your behavior/purchase/withdrawal - IT IS A SCAM!

10. **If it sounds too good to be true - IT IS!**

Consumer Protection  
North Dakota Office of Attorney General  
701-328-3404  
1-800-472-2600 (in ND only)  
WWW.ATTORNEYGENERAL.ND.GOV