



Steps family members and caregivers can take to ***SUPPORT AND PROTECT*** senior victims and prevent revictimization

Approach the situation with a positive attitude of “Where do we go from here?”

Be empathetic, non-confrontational, and non-judgmental. The victim may not understand the illegal nature of foreign lotteries and other predatory scams they have been participating in.

- **Keep your family member involved** in the decision-making process. Assuring your loved one you are not taking away their rights or their independence will go a long way towards enlisting their cooperation.
- **Review any literature together provided by law enforcement** on prize, sweepstakes, and lottery scams.
- **Offer to screen their mail with them** and decide together if an offer is legitimate or a scam. Have your loved one forward their mail to a PO Box. Divert mail to you to be screened.
- **Find something else for them to do besides talking on the phone and entering sweepstakes** — regular visits to the senior center? Non-credit classes at a community college? Volunteer work at the animal shelter or a non-profit?
- **STAY IN TOUCH!** Social isolation makes seniors vulnerable to fraudsters. Even a five-minute phone call once a day lets an aging loved one know you care about their well-being. With regular contact, you'll be more aware when something is amiss.



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