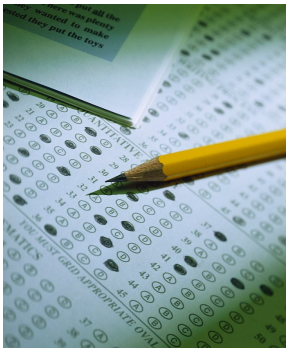




FROM WELD COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY KENNETH R. BUCK
FOR THE C.A.S.E. PROGRAM

FRAUD ALERT!

TEST YOUR FRAUD IQ: PART 2



How did you do last month on part one of testing your fraud IQ? Try answering this set of questions to see how well prepared you are in protecting yourself against fraud.

1) When someone calls on behalf of a charity, all of the money you donate at that time goes to the charity. *True or False?*

2) When someone calls you and explains they are an attorney or law enforcement officer and they have a warrant for your arrest, you should do everything they ask. *True or False?*

3) Most investment fraud is committed by long-term trusted advisors. *True or False?*

4) I know the three basic tactics that phone and internet scammers use to get personal identifying information from me. *True or False?*

Answers:

1) False. It is the donor's responsibility to ask the charity directly how the donation will be used. Ask for the charity's annual report and contact the Better Business Bureau with regard to the charity.

2) False. Many times scammers will use this tactic to create a sense of fear and urgency in order to get you to act without thinking. Don't fall for it. If you think there may be some legitimacy to the call, contact law enforcement officials yourself and discuss the situation.

3) True. The majority of investment fraud cases involve financial advisors who had long-term, trusting relationships with their clients. Never let an advisor make an investment decision without seeking advice from a lawyer, an accountant and/or your state's securities administration. Don't get complacent with your investment decisions.

4) Hopefully you answered "true": First, establish a relationship, trust or authority; second, create a sense of urgency (panic, fear, excitement); third, offer a solution — you give them money or information.

Contact your local police agency if you think you are a victim of a crime.
To contact the Weld County District Attorney's Office, call (970) 356-4010 ext. 4702.