

Louisiana
Office of Financial Institutions
(OFI)

Investigate before you invest!

1-877-516-3653 Free call OR
225-925-4512 Local call

Learn more about fraud at
www.ofi.la.gov/SecuritiesInvestorEd.htm

- Before investing, learn if your investment professional AND the security are both legally registered to be sold in Louisiana.
- Before investing, request *free* background checks (*CRD Reports*) on investment professionals registered with OFI.
- Ask about exemptions to registration with OFI, or suspicious investments.
- Report investment fraud for a confidential investigation.
- Request a free speaker for your group or conference in Louisiana on the red flags of investment scams.

Learn More!

- More *Conversation Starters* designed for couples, families, employees, military, and people in crisis at www.ofi.la.gov/SecuritiesInvestorEd.htm
- Investor education and fraud prevention at www.nasaa.org/investor-education/

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About NASAA

Organized in 1919, the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) is the oldest international organization devoted to investor protection. NASAA is a voluntary association whose membership consists of 67 state, provincial, and territorial securities administrators in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada, and Mexico.

Retirees and
Seniors



Empty Nest

Conversation Starters for
Retirees and Seniors



■ Getting Started

Financial uncertainty in retirement can make you vulnerable to investment scams. Here are questions and information to ask yourself, your partner or children.

■ Budgeting

- Are your projections for your retirement needs accurate?
- Will you be able to enjoy the lifestyle you want (i.e. travel or recreational activities)?
- Have you planned for unforeseen expenses due to inflation and medical expenses?
- Could you downsize to reduce living expenses?
- Have you made arrangements for someone to manage your finances if your health should decline?

Check out NASAA's [Senior Investor Resource Center](#) for tips to keep your financial plan on target.

■ Saving

- Have you planned for rising health care costs?
- Does someone you trust have copies of your estate planning documents and accounts information?

- Do you have an emergency fund for unexpected financial hardships?
- Who can you seek advice from to leave an inheritance?
- Do you know all commissions, penalties, taxes and fees for withdrawing or rolling over retirement funds?

Check out NASAA's [10 Tips to Protect Your Nest Egg](#) for ideas on protecting your life savings from fraud.

■ Investing

- Who manages your investments and gives you investment advice?
Remember to check that this person is properly licensed.
- Does your mix of investments match the level of risk you want at this stage of life?

- Do you understand the risks and benefits of financial products promoted to senior investors, such as reverse mortgages, variable annuities or life settlements?
- Do you know all commissions, penalties, taxes and fees for withdrawing or rolling over your retirement funds?
- Who will handle your investments if your health starts to decline?

Check out NASAA and AARP's [Free Lunch Monitor program](#), a volunteer opportunity.

■ Scams and Frauds

- Where can you verify an investment opportunity and promoter?
- What are the red flags of investment scams and frauds?
- What can you do to make sure a potential investment is not a scam?
- What should you do if you suspect fraud?