

October 2013

CONSUMER FRAUD BULLETIN

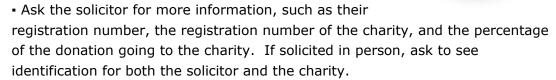
Brought to you by Colorado Attorney General John Suthers

Beware of Colorado Flood Relief Fraud

The recent Colorado floods have been devastating to our communities bringing Colorado into the national spotlight. Unfortunately, scammers can exploit these tragedies by taking advantage of victims and those wanting to help others. The Colorado Attorney General would like to remind consumers to take precautions to stay safe from falling victim to charitable fraud and other disaster related scams.

Coloradans can take several steps to ensure their charitable contributions are helping disaster victims instead of scam artists:





• Beware of unsolicited e-mail. Some e-mail solicitations from senders posing as the Red Cross have links embedded in them that will take you to a fake Red Cross Website. Unsolicited e-mail may also spread computer viruses. Do not respond to any e-mail soliciting donations for any organization. Instead, go directly to the organization's website.

Visit our website for more information about avoiding Charitable Giving Fraud.

After the immediate hazards of a natural disaster are over, other problems tend to surface. Among these are scams, frauds, and other consumer protection issues. Visit the following articles to learn about keeping you and your loved ones protected.

Debris Removal Scams
Door to Door Sales Fraud
Fake Disaster Officials
Flood Damaged Cars
Home Repair Fraud
Roofing Scams

If a consumer believes they have been defrauded or victimized by a business or nonprofit, they may file a report by visiting www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov/complaint or by calling 1-800-222-4444.

<u>Sign up</u> to receive the Consumer Fraud Bulletin or visit the <u>Office of the</u> Attorney General's Facebook page for fraud alerts and important updates.



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