



Protect Your Private Information

Private financial information includes things like:

- Bank account numbers
- Credit card numbers
- Account passwords
- Account PINS

Personal information includes things like:

- Date of birth
- Social security number

Do not give out private financial or personal information unless you are SURE you are dealing with someone you can TRUST.

Watch out for these scams!



Mail & Papers

- Don't let other persons open or look at your mail, bank statements, or similar documents unless you know you can trust them completely.
- Don't keep papers with personal information in places where others can see them. Lock up papers with private information.
- Shred or destroy papers with private information before putting them in the trash.



Telephone

- Don't give out personal information over the telephone. Don't be fooled by someone pretending to be from your doctor's office, a credit card company, a debt collector, the Internal Revenue Service or telling you that you have won a prize.
- Be safe, not sorry. Ask for something in writing. Ask for a phone number to call after you confirm the caller is who they say they are. Get someone you trust to help you handle calls you're not sure about.
- Remember – someone pressuring you to make a fast decision over the phone might be trying to scam you. Be careful!



Online

- Don't click on e-mail attachments if you are not sure it is safe.
- Don't go to websites if you are not sure it is safe.
- Beware! An e-mail that looks okay may be from someone pretending to be your bank or someone else you trust. Don't reply, click on attachments, or click on web links if you have any doubt.



Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. is a non-profit law firm serving the civil legal needs of western Ohio's low-income individuals, families and seniors. This information is not legal advice. It is general information. It is not a substitute for talking to a lawyer about your situation. You may still need help from a lawyer.

Find videos, forms, helpful links and more at: www.legalaidline.org.

Last updated October 2018

This project was made possible in part by a Grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Ohio State Bar Foundation.



Protect Your Personal Safety

If someone is hurting you, get help!

If you are being abused, neglected or exploited let someone know and get help!

If you are in danger now, call 911.



If you are 60+...

Adult Protective Services

Your county Adult Protective Services may be able to investigate and take action to protect you. Call: 1-855-644-6277.

If you live in a nursing home...

Long Term Care Ombudsman

If you live in a nursing home or some other group residential setting, your area Long Term Care Ombudsman Office may be able to help you.

How to Get Help

- Take steps to stay safe.
- Create a safety plan. Get help if needed.
- If you cannot safely reach out for help on your own, ask someone you trust for help. Talk to your doctor, religious advisor, or a trusted friend or relative.

If someone close harms you...

Domestic Violence Service Providers

If you are being harmed or threatened by a family member or romantic partner, your local domestic violence agency or advocates may be able to help you. Call: 1-800-799-7233.

If you are in danger...

Law Enforcement Help

Call 911. Police may be able to arrest an abuser and the prosecutor's office might bring criminal charges. A court can order temporary protection.

If you need a lawyer...

Legal Help

Your local legal aid office may be able to help you go to court to get protection. Courts can issue Civil Protection Orders (CPO's) to protect you.

Other Help may be available:

- Call 211
- Area Agency on Aging (if you are a senior). Call: 1-866-243-5678.
- Disability Rights Ohio (if you are a person with a disability). Call: 1-800-282-9181.



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