

# AVOIDING CHARITY SCAMS

[www.ftc.gov/charityfraud](http://www.ftc.gov/charityfraud)

[www.nasconet.org](http://www.nasconet.org)

[www.give.org](http://www.give.org)

[www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)

[www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits](http://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits)

- Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. That's something scammers do.
- Some scammers try to trick you into paying them by thanking you for a donation that you never made.
- Scammers can change caller ID to make a call look like it's from a local area code.
- Some scammers use names that sound a lot like the names of real charities. This is one reason it pays to do some research before giving.
- Scammers make lots of vague and sentimental claims but give no specifics about how your donation will be used.
- Bogus organizations may claim that your donation is tax-deductible when it is not.
- Guaranteeing sweepstakes winnings in exchange for a donation is not only a scam, it's illegal.