

# CREDIT CARD PROTECTION

IT PAYS TO DO SOME HOMEWORK

## LOSS PROTECTION OFFERS NOT WORTH THE COST

Telephone scam artists may call to attempt to sell you credit card loss protection or other insurance programs. Many times these “credit card protection” companies may tell you they are affiliated with your credit card company when, in fact, they are not. If you didn’t authorize a charge to your credit card, do not pay it. Follow your credit card issuer’s procedures for disputing charges you haven’t authorized. According to the Federal Trade Commission, your liability for unauthorized charges is limited to \$50.

## PROTECT YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Never give out personal information - including your credit card or bank account numbers - over the phone or online unless you are familiar with the business that’s asking for it. Scam artists can use your personal information to commit fraud, such as identity theft. That’s where someone uses some piece of your personal information, such as your credit card account number, Social Security number, mother’s maiden name, or birth date, without your knowledge or permission to commit fraud or theft. Many telemarketers will ask you to confirm your credit card number by telling you the first few digits and asking you to complete the number. Be aware that all credit cards of the same type (Discover, MasterCard, Visa, etc.) begin with the same four numbers.

## ASK TO RECEIVE PROGRAM INFORMATION BY MAIL

Rather than sign up for something you are not sure about over the phone, ask the telemarketer to mail you information about the service to help you make a well-informed decision about your purchase.

## CAN I STOP THE UNSOLICITED OFFERS?

If you decide that you don’t want to receive prescreened offers of credit and insurance, you have two choices: You can opt out of receiving them for five years or opt out of receiving them permanently. Call toll-free 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688) or visit [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) for details. When you call or visit the website, you’ll be asked to provide certain personal information, including your home telephone number, name, Social Security number, and date of birth. The information you provide is confidential and will be used only to process your request to opt out.

## PRIVACY REGULATIONS

The Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was created through enactment of the Dodd-Frank Act. Business regulated under Dodd-Frank have to develop and give notice of their privacy policies to their customers at least annually and notify consumers before disclosing a consumer’s personal financial information to an unaffiliated third party. CFPB regulations provide an opportunity for consumers to “opt out” from such “third-party” disclosure.



Learn more at [www.InYourCornerKansas.org](http://www.InYourCornerKansas.org)  
or call (800) 432-2310

Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach

