



INTERNATIONAL FRAUD

BE WARY OF LOTTERIES, BUSINESS OFFERS

Kansas consumers should take extra precaution when engaging in business transactions with international companies or individuals outside the United States. There are a number of email, phone and mail scams that promise you some service, prize winning or product, ask for immediate payment and then fail to deliver. It is difficult if not impossible to track these individuals down once money has changed hands.

Be on the lookout for:

- * International callers (800- and 900-numbers, pay-per calls)
- * Foreign lotteries (on the State of Kansas can legally operate a lottery in Kansas.)
- * Nigerian bank scams (requests for your personal bank account information)
- * Contests and sweepstakes (consumers are told to pay “taxes,” “handling fees” or “restocking charges” before receipt of winnings)
- * Loan brokers (advance fee schemes, which are illegal)
- * Home improvements (money paid before work started)
- * Business opportunities (large investments with no return)

Why do foreign companies want to do business in the United States?

- * Safe jurisdictional boundaries. Scammers are difficult to track down when operating abroad.
- * Some elderly individuals may be vulnerable victims
- * Low cost of operations and easy mobility for these types of operations
- * Drop boxes can be easily set up to collect payments
- * Money can be wired and picked up at any location
- * Call the Kansas Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-432-2310 if you have questions or concerns about a call or an offer.
- * Forward email solicitations for foreign lottery promotions to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov.



Learn more at www.InYourCornerKansas.org
or call (800) 432-2310

Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach

