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# FRAUD ALERT!

From the Office of Denver District Attorney  
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## **COLORADO STATUTE GIVES SENIORS A PROACTIVE WAY TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION!**

The Denver District Attorney's office sees far too many victims who have had their life savings stolen by a family member, caregiver, or acquaintance through intimidation, deceit, or manipulation. Frequently, bank and credit union employees are the first to notice when a customer's account is at risk. However, even if they suspect someone is at risk, financial institutions cannot release information that could be used to stop the criminal due to important confidentiality requirements. Often a person's money is gone by the time anyone is able to intervene.

In 2000, the Colorado legislature passed Colorado Revised Statute 26-3.1-206 whereby anyone over 60 or any "at-risk" adult may request and voluntarily sign an "Informed Consent Form" to be placed in their customer file. This voluntary action by the customer grants permission to their financial institution to release information about any *future* suspicious account activity to appropriate agencies for the limited purpose of investigating known or suspected financial exploitation.

### **What to do next:**

1. Request an Informed Consent Form (ICF) from your financial institution. If your bank/credit union is unfamiliar with these forms, an example of a form that may be accepted by your bank/credit union is available on our website – [www.denverda.org](http://www.denverda.org) click on Consumer Alerts or call 720-913-9036.
2. Fill out the information, sign it and instruct your financial institution to place it in your customer file for future use, should the need arise.

Hopefully, you will never need it – but better safe than sorry.

**Need help or have a question about this issue  
Call the Denver District Attorney's office at 720-913-9036**

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