

NAPSA Scam Advice Forum September 2026

Topic: Inside US DOJ's Cyber Enabled Scam Initiative

Presenter: Rich Goldberg, Director of DOJ's Cyber Enabled Scam Initiative who will describe the schemes his division is combatting as well as avenues for cooperation among federal, state and local authorities including APS representatives.

Co-Hosts: Steve Baker and Debbie Deem

Sign up for Steve's weekly 'www.Bakerfraudreport.com' for worldwide news/trends/arrests/prosecutions transnational organized crime frauds/scams.

National Elder Fraud Hotline (U.S. DOJ) 1-833-372-8311 National federal hotline for adults 60 and over to report fraud and providing support and resources/safety tips. Help with filing IC3 and FTC reports. Language line. <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope>

Report Fraud to Local Police/Adult Protective Services (APS) as Well as One or More of These Federal Govt. Databases/Agencies

- [FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center](http://www.ic3.gov) www.ic3.gov
- [Federal Trade Commission \(FTC\)](http://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov) www.reportfraud.ftc.gov
- [Report Identity Theft to the FTC](http://www.identitytheft.gov) www.identitytheft.gov
- [U.S Postal Inspection Service \(USPIS\) 1-877-876-2455](https://www.uspis.gov/report) <https://www.uspis.gov/report>
- If Crypto Investment Confidence Fraud/Crypto-Relationship Investment (Pig Butchering)- contact local U.S. Secret Service office, in addition filing a complaint with CryptoFraud@SecretService.gov and www.ic3.gov.
- [FBI Guidance for Crypto-Currency Fraud Victims in Completing an IC3 report](https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA230824) <https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA230824>

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/> (855) 411-2372

Help consumers connect with financial institutions such as banks to understand issues, fix errors, and get responses about problems, or submit a complaint about a financial service product.

US Dept Justice and Related Resources on the New Efforts

President Executive Order 14390 of March 6, 2026 Combating Cybercrime, Fraud, and Predatory Schemes Against American Citizens, directing the Federal Government to take various actions to combat cyber-enabled crime harming Americans. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2026/03/combating-cybercrime-fraud-and-predatory-schemes-against-american-citizens/>

Fact Sheet- March 6, 2026 **President combats cybercrime, fraud, and predatory schemes against American citizens** <https://www.whitehouse.gov/fact-sheets/2026/03/fact-sheet-president-donald-j-trump-combats-cybercrime-fraud-and-predatory-schemes-against-american-citizens/>

Presidential Memorandum August 12, 2026 Expanding Capabilities to Combat Transnational Cyber-Enabled Crime expands the fight against TCO-perpetrated (Transnational Criminal Organizations) cybercrime by incorporating the ingenuity of the private sector.

The Victim Restoration Fund was included in the President's Executive Order and is aimed at helping those impacted by cyber fraud, especially crypto, to be provided financial restoration from funds seized or forfeited from criminal organizations. (Details have not been announced.)

The Scam Center Strike Force was formed in 2025 and combines the power, reach, and resources of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia with the Department of Justice's Criminal Division, FBI, Secret Service, USPIS, and HSI against Southeast Asian cryptocurrency-related fraud and scams. The Strike Force seeks to use all government tools available, partnering with the Department of State, the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and the Department of Commerce. The Strike Force investigates 'forced to scam' compounds located in Southeast Asia. Strike Force teams focus on identifying and pursuing key leaders—including Chinese organized crime affiliates operating in Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar to bring them to justice. The Strike Force Crypto Seizure team has already restrained \$938,460,156.82 in crypto currency from these schemes.

The Strike Force also works to seize and disable U.S.-based facilities and infrastructure that provide the manner and means to execute these scams, which includes U.S. internet service provider and social media accounts scammers use to prey on Americans. The Strike Force will collaborate with U.S. companies to sever access to the scam centers and prevent U.S. infrastructure from being weaponized against American citizens. <https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/scam-center-strike-force>

A bipartisan bill called the **Tax Relief for Fraud Victims Act** (H.R. 9500) was passed by the House of Representatives in September 2026. The Act aims to provide financial relief to scam victims by expanding tax deductions for fraud losses and easing penalties on retirement account withdrawals used to recover from such losses. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/119/hr9500/text>

A bipartisan bill, the **GUARD Act**, Guarding Unprotected Aging Retirees From Deception Act, (H.R. 2978) also passed the House in Sept. 2026. If passed by Congress, the Act will provide federal resources to state and local law enforcement to ensure when fraud victims report the crime, law enforcement has the tools to respond.

ReportScams.gov Act is a proposed bill (Senate bill 4782) to create a centralized federal website to report scams and receive assistance, to streamline the reporting process and improve coordination among state and federal law enforcement.

In June and September 2026, the **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)**, alongside federal banking regulators, issued two crucial updates designed to provide guidance to end the "compliance silos" banks use to avoid talking to peer financial institutions or victims seeking transaction information.

- This outlines the [June 2026 Section 314\(b\) Fact Sheet](#) (Guidance on sharing information with other financial institutions)
- This is the link to the [September 2026 Joint Statement on SAR Confidentiality](#) which empowers banks to communicate effectively with those victimized in sharing certain transaction information.

Elderjustice.gov (<https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice>) US DOJ portal for information on various initiatives including 1) federal law enforcement activities nationally including arrests, indictments and sentencings 2) support to older victim's initiatives 3) enhancing state and local elder justice efforts, and 4) raising public awareness including slides that can be used for presentations.

Free Online Fraud Support Programs

AARP Fraud Support Groups and Helpline Support for those victimized and family members of these frauds, special groups for romance scams. Includes the Fraud Watch Network where trained volunteers respond to inquiries about fraud at 877-908-3360: You don't have to be AARP member, no age restriction.

- To register for the free support groups https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/fraud-victim-support-group/?cmp=RDRCT-CSN-FRD-NEW-SUPPORT_GROUP_PAGE
- Fraud webinars - <https://www.aarp.org/events/scam-prevention/>

FightCyberCrime www.fightcybercrime.org Free romance imposter fraud and crypto investment fraud online peer support programs, all ages. Includes online information for many types of online fraud.

- <https://fightcybercrime.org/programs/romance-scam-recovery-group/>

Fraud Awareness Network offers weekly peer-to-peer program for victims age 60 and over, facilitated by Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc. fraudnetwork@lifespanrochester.org or call 585-244-8400

Give An Hour Free online support programs for victims and loved ones with peer support, all ages.

- <https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/>
- Connect to counselors or accessing support group <https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/>
- Financial Fraud Mental Health Professional Training & Cadre Registration https://giveanhour.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6fn5URwwbvMX2mi
- Working with Fraud Survivors <https://giveanhour.org/wp-content/uploads/Working-with-Scam-and-Fraud-Survivors-Resource.pdf>

Cathy Wilson, Therapist <https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com/> Includes free YouTube video series for those victimized, and resources/videos for family members, mental health professionals, law enforcement, etc. <https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com>

- <https://www.youtube.com/@fraudpsychology/videos>
- Trauma Therapy Training for Therapists Serving Fraud Victims <https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com/mental-health-trauma-scams-fraud/>

Additional National Victim Support Resources:

AARP Fraud Watch Network – a free, nationwide initiative that empowers consumers to fight back against identity theft and scams. Open to people of all ages regardless of AARP membership, offers a toll-free helpline, real-time scam alerts, peer support groups for victims, and educational resources. <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/about-fraud-watch-network/> 877-908-3360

- **Professional Resources: Words Matter: Improving Outcomes for Crime Victims**

<https://www.aarp.org/lp/words-matter/>

Fightcybercrime Online information, support and how to recognize, report and recover (including support groups and informative blogs) for many types of online fraud. <https://fightcybercrime.org/>

Identity Theft Resource Center provides free crime victim identity theft assistance through a toll-free call center, at 888-400-5530, live chat, website, podcasts, and social media. www.idtheftcenter.org Includes access to freezing credit and info on other sites to protect at (www.frozenpii.org)

Operation Shamrock Resource for those victimized in crypto investment/romance transnational crimes. Includes link to possibly help trace digital money. Bimonthly online meeting forum for those victimized and helpers. <https://www.operationshamrock.org/>

- Includes reporting form to request ‘tracing’ of crypto funds.
- <https://www.operationshamrock.org/reporting-basics>

VictimConnect Resource Center, through the National Center for Victims of Crime, is a 24-hour anonymous and confidential hotline where victims of any crime can receive support, information and referral options confidentially. Call or text 855-484-2846 <https://victimsofcrime.org/>

Advocating Against Romance Scammers Comprehensive support, education and advocacy initiatives, including resources for those victimized. <https://advocatingforu.com/>

Better Business Bureau Scam Recovery Toolkit

<https://scamsurvivaltoolkit.bbbmarketplacetrust.org/>

National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Dial or text to ‘988’ or 1-800-273-8255 <https://988lifeline.org/>

Legal Resources:

Scam Justice Legal Clinic: SJLC provides free consultations with an attorney to empower victims by helping them understand their legal options, document their cases, and take proactive steps to protect themselves

- <https://www.dwt.com/about/pro-bono/scam-justice-legal-clinic>
- To request services, email ScamJustice@dwt.com.

National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA) To find a consumer law attorney who specializes in various consumer rights/fraud victimization <https://www.consumeradvocates.org/findanattorney/>

National Consumer Law Center (Resources for Finding Attorneys) <https://www.nclc.org/>

- Provides list of resources/attorney options, including finding legal aid offices, a consumer attorney, a consumer bankruptcy attorney, affordable or pro-bono attorneys, and your state utility consumer advocate.