



# INVESTMENT FRAUD

**Learn to avoid common schemes and scams.**

## UNREGISTERED PERSONS, FIRMS AND PRODUCTS



A person or firm is unregistered and not legally able to provide services. Always check if a person, firm or product is registered before doing business with them.

## INVESTMENT PROPERTY SCHEMES



"Investment opportunities" promising high returns and low to no risk.

## PONZI SCHEMES



Early investors paid with money raised from later investors. No underlying business or product.

## PRIVATE PLACEMENTS



Offerings of unregistered securities to a limited pool of investors.

## PROMISSORY NOTE SCHEMES



Promissory notes are a form of a loan or IOU. Promise investors a fixed return.

## COMMODITY INVESTMENTS - CRYPTOCURRENCY



Social media and/or offshore websites offering ways to invest in cryptocurrencies which may not be legitimate.

**IMPORTANT: Check the registration status of an individual or product before you invest! The Connecticut Department of Banking can help.**

**Contact us at 1-800-831-7225 or visit [www.ct.gov/dob](http://www.ct.gov/dob).**