



Office of the Indiana Secretary of State

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of Indiana Secretary of State continues to promote awareness of elder financial abuse

The Indiana Investment Watch team provides educational materials to seniors on the risk of investment fraud on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

INDIANAPOLIS (June 15, 2012)-The Office of Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson continues an ongoing effort to protect aging Hoosiers by participating in the S.A.F.E. Seminar, taking place today for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The S.A.F.E. Seminar is hosted by Senior Medicare Patrol at Saint Luke's United Methodist Church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"It is predicted the global population of those 65 years and older will more than double by 2050, making it more important than ever to raise awareness of elder abuse and financial exploitation. The Indiana Investment Watch program is committed to providing education about the preventative measures seniors can take in order to protect themselves," said Secretary Lawson.

Secretary Lawson addressed participants and introduced Securities Commissioner Chris Naylor who presented on the dangers of investment fraud aimed at seniors. Investor Education Coordinator, Karli Simmons is available at a booth with educational materials and to answer questions.

"As the number of seniors increases, the number of individuals who are vulnerable to financial exploitation also increases. In fact, people over 60 years of age already account for 30 percent of investment fraud victims, with an average loss between \$12,500 and \$25,000," said Commissioner Naylor. "Retirees have worked for decades to build their worth through 401(k) programs, personal savings and the like, and fraudsters know it."

Commissioner Naylor is joined today by speakers from the Attorney General's office, Adult Protective Services, the Better Business Bureau of Central Indiana, IMPD Department of Public Safety, among others.

For more information about Senior Medicare Patrol, visit <http://www.iaaa.org/smp.asp>. The primary goal of Senior Medicare Patrol is to teach Medicare beneficiaries how to protect their personal identity, identify and report errors on their health care bills, and identify deceptive health care practices.

About Indiana Investment Watch

The Indiana Investment Watch program was created to increase financial literacy in Hoosiers and to educate them about the various types of securities and mortgage loan broker fraud. The program is not funded by taxpayer dollars but rather by civil fines imposed upon violators of the Indiana Uniform Securities Act. For more information, please visit www.IndianaInvestmentWatch.com.

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