# **Did You Know?**



### **Ways to Reduce Sales Solicitation**

**♦** The National Do Not Call Registry www.DoNotCall.gov (1-888-382-1222)

This registry is free to consumers and is regulated by the Federal Trade Commission. Once on this list, telemarketers must refrain from calling you or face a fine up to \$11,000 per illegal call.

**◆Consumer Credit Reporting Agency's "Opt Out" Department** 1-888-5 OPT OUT (1-888-567-8688)

Call this toll free number to opt out of receiving pre-screened credit offers.

**♦ Mail Preference Service** 

P.O. Box 643

**Carmel, NY 10512** 

Mail a letter with your name, address, phone number and your request to be removed from the list. This will erase your name from junk mail lists.

♦ Florida Do Not Call Registry 800-HELP-FLA (800-435-7352) For a charge of \$10 for the first year and \$5 every following year, you can register with the State of Florida's Do Not Call registry.

### **Ways to Protect from Scams**

 ◆ Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board 727-536-4720

#### www.pcclb.com

You can contact PCCLB to check on contractor's licenses, complaint history or file a complaint.

♦ Medicare/Medicaid fraud hotline

1-866-357-6677

Contact this office to report or inquire about Medicare/Medicaid fraud.

♦ Florida Attorney General

1-866-966-7226

You can report scams to the Attorney General using this toll free number.



#### ◆ Mail Fraud Complaint Center

1-800-372-8347

You can report scams from mailbox bandits by calling the number above or contacting your local postmaster.

#### **◆ County Department of Justice and Consumer Services**

727-464-6200 **Pinellas 727-847-8110 Pasco** 

By calling this number, you can file complaints or check a company's history of complaints before doing business with them.

◆ State of Florida Dept. of Financial Services Consumer Hotline 800-342-2762

## **Ways to Protect from Identity Theft**

### **♦ Free Annual Credit Report**

www.annualcreditreport.com

877-322-8228

◆Equifax Experian TransUnion 800-685-1111 888-397-3742 800-888-4213 You can also write: Annual Credit Report Request Service at

P.O.Box 105281, Atlanta, Ga. 30348-5281

www.equifax.com www.experian.com www.transunion.com
You can request a free copy of your credit report to monitor for fraud.

**◆Federal Trade Commission Identity Theft Hotline** 

877-IDTHEFT (877-438-4338)

File a complaint with the FTC if you have been a victim of identity theft.

♦ Social Security Administration Fraud Hotline 800-269-0271

Report theft of your Social Security number by calling this toll free number.

### **Support for Victims of Crime/Abuse**

**♦ Elder Victim Advocate Program** 

Pinellas: 727-570-9696 ext 279 Pasco: 727-861-5233

- **♦ Senior Helpline** 800-96-ELDER (800-963-5337)
- **♦ 1-800-96-ABUSE (800-962-2873)**

Call this toll free number to report abuse, neglect or exploitation.

◆Statewide Senior Legal Helpline

888-895-7873

- **♦ National Center for Victims of Crime**
- 1-800-FYI-CALL (800-394-2255)
- **♦ Federal Reporting of Consumer Scam**
- 1-877-FTC-HELP (877-372-4357)

