



CONSUMER ALERT

810 FIRST STREET, NE, SUITE 701 | WASHINGTON, DC 20002 | WWW.DISB.DC.GOV

HOW TO AVOID BECOMING A VICTIM OF INSURANCE FRAUD

District of Columbia Consumers: You can protect yourself against insurance service scams by staying alert, asking questions and going slowly, or opting out if an insurance transaction seems suspicious or too good to be true.

Following are some tips to help you identify and avoid insurance fraud. For more information, contact the **Government of the District of Columbia Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB), Enforcement and Investigation Bureau** at **(202) 727-8000**.

INSURANCE ANTI-FRAUD TIPS

- Contact **DISB** to verify that the agent and company are licensed.
- Never sign blank insurance claim forms.
- Demand detailed bills for repair and medical services. Check closely for accuracy.
- Make sure “free services” aren’t actually hidden in your insurance bill.
- Be suspicious if the price of insurance seems too low to be true.
- Keep your insurance identification number confidential; people can steal it and involve you in scams.
- Be wary if a car suddenly pulls in front of you, forcing you to follow dangerously close. You may be set up for a staged accident. After an auto accident, be careful of strangers who offer you quick cash or urge you to see a specific medical clinic, doctor or attorney. They could be part of a fraud ring.

Contact **DISB** at **(202) 727-8000** or e-mail **disb@dc.gov** if you think you’ve being scammed or someone asks you to take part in fraud.