

## THE INVESTIGATOR

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### About Us

Since 2000 BCSI has performed hundreds of successful investigations.

Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted in a timely fashion with leading edge techniques.

BCSI is considered the gold standard of the industry based on the quality and the wide spectrum of its services

### Introduction

In this 4 part series we will discuss how to prevent being a victim of fraud, the top 10 most common ways to be defrauded, and how to prevent being defrauded. You will learn about the face to face fraudster, the on-line romance scam and more. We will also provide tips on how to complete your due diligence on potential fraudsters.

### How to Prevent Being a Victim of Fraud

If an investment is too good to be true then it probably is. Fraudsters come from all income levels and occupations. Firstly the fraudsters try to develop trust with an offering which provides substantial return on investment or other benefits which are beyond normal returns.



The promises are often based on investment returns but fraudulent activities can also be disguised in many other ways.

The following are the most common ways fraudsters may approach you:

- Bogus lotteries, sweepstakes, and contests
- Pyramid/Ponzi schemes
- Money transfer requests
- Internet scams (false loans)
- Mobile phone scams
- On-line dating and romance scams
- Health and medical scams
- Investment scams on-line and face to face
- Job and employment scams
- Small business scams


as well as the expertise of the investigators.

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- Service scams

### 2013 Statistics

- 44,367 complaints of mass marketing fraud received by Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre
- \$52.7 million mass market fraud losses reported to the CAFC
- 40,000 was the average number of e-mail complaints sent to CAFC
- 19,504 Identity fraud cases reported to the CFAC
- 14% increase in identity fraud

