

Solicitation Tips

1. Confine your charitable giving to reputable established organizations, preferably those with a local branch.
2. If solicited by an individual for personal charity, don't give cash; offer to buy the individual food or drink or refer them to local assistance resources.
3. If solicited for an unfamiliar organized charity, ask for literature so you can make an informed decision about giving; any reputable organization will be glad to provide material.
4. If solicited by telephone, do not give out credit card numbers or personal information not listed in the telephone directory. Do not allow the organization to come to your home until you are certain of their reliability. Instead, ask them to send you information so you can make an informed decision and mail in your donation.
5. With the exception of local organizations, door to door sales are often fraudulent, and should be viewed with skepticism. If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.
6. Under consumer protection laws, you have a right to written information about any offer; don't be afraid to ask for documentation.
7. Make sure you obtain enough information to enable you to contact the vendor or his/her office in the event you have questions or change your mind.
8. Everyone should be especially skeptical of anyone coming to your house asking to do a service or house repair for you. These type individuals often target our senior citizens. If you need repairs get more than one written estimates. Never allow someone to do a job and give you a price later. Any reputable person or firm will be happy to give you an estimate before the work is done.