

¡OJO!

Be on the Alert Against Fraud
Stay Informed with the FTC



The Federal Trade Commission • 1-877-382-4357 • www.ftc.gov

The Federal Trade Commission: Serving Hispanic Consumers

The FTC – the nation’s consumer protection champion

The FTC works for the consumer to prevent fraud, deception, and unfair business practices in the marketplace.

- The FTC provides free information – in English and Spanish – to help you spot and avoid fraud and deception in the marketplace.
- The FTC enforces federal consumer protection laws.
- The FTC wants to hear from you, whether you want to get information or file a complaint.

Hispanic consumers: at risk for fraud

A recent survey of consumers by the FTC suggests that Hispanics are about twice as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be victims of consumer fraud. The survey also indicates that Hispanics are significantly more likely to be victims of credit-related frauds, like credit repair schemes and bogus credit card insurance.

Protecting Hispanic consumers from fraud

Recently the FTC has:

- Sued a company that “promised” Spanish-speaking consumers that they would get a credit card after paying the defendants a fee, but never delivered the credit card.
- Halted a scheme where Spanish-language ads promised a complete computer system for three payments of \$199, but delivered only useless computer parts at a much higher price.
- Sued a marketer whose Spanish radio ads promised substantial and permanent weight loss without diet or exercise.

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- Shut down Web sites that falsely claimed to help people enter the State Department's 'Green Card' lottery.
- Targeted six sellers who, under the guise of "international law," pitched worthless documents to immigrants who were seeking an alternative to a government-issued driver's license.
- Sued a debt collection company for allegedly violating the rights of Spanish-speaking consumers.

Alerting Hispanic consumers to fraud

Through its Office of Consumer and Business Education, the FTC exhibits at national conferences that focus on Hispanic consumers, and distributes radio public service announcements, news releases, and consumer publications in Spanish.

The FTC has information in Spanish on:

- buying a used car
- credit, mortgages, and loans
- debt collection
- identity theft
- "miracle" health claims
- paying for funerals
- scholarship scams
- secure shopping online
- shopping for jewelry
- telemarketing
- weight loss products
- work-at-home schemes...
...and more

Non-profit organizations, businesses, and government agencies may request bulk orders of these publications for free.

To place an order or to file a complaint about fraud or identity theft, visit www.ftc.gov/spanish, or call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357). FTC operators speak Spanish.