

We are posting this information to make you aware of what is known as a recovery scam. In a recovery scam, someone offers to help someone who was victimized obtain prizes promised in an earlier scam or to recover money lost in an earlier scam. After paying the fee for the recovery, the consumer never again hears from the recovery scammer -- no refund, no prize, just the loss of more money.

If anyone contacts you offering to help you obtain funds that you lost in some sort of fraudulent scheme, you should be aware that this may be just another attempt to steal money from you. This is being posted as a general warning, not as an allegation regarding any particular activity of this kind.

For more information on this type of fraud, see the website of the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice, at <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/telemarket/ask/schemes.html#recovery>

In addition, you may wish to look at the Federal Trade Commission's publication entitled "Telemarketing Recovery Scams" (March 2000) at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/telemarketing/tel09.pdf>