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Hawaii Attorney General, FTC and Partners Announce Kick-off of Third Annual International Charity Fraud Awareness Week

HONOLULU – Attorney General Clare E. Connors joins state charities regulators across the country, the National Association of State Charities Officials (NASCO) and the Federal Trade Commission to announce the third annual International Charity Fraud Awareness Week (ICFAW), which runs from October 19 to 23, 2020. ICFAW is a coordinated international campaign to help charities and consumers avoid charity fraud and to promote wise giving.

“Our agency is pleased to partner once again with this international effort,” said Attorney General Connors. “The goal is to provide information to the people of our state so they can make thoughtful choices about the charities they choose to support with donations and keep their hard-earned money from ending up in the wrong hands. This is especially important now as we face the challenges and hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

This year’s Charity Fraud Awareness Week will bring together the Charities Sector and the agencies that regulate them from all over the globe in a collaborative social media campaign to raise awareness of issues surrounding charity fraud and to promote their common goal of fraud prevention. As are most sectors of our society, charities are susceptible to fraud. Working together, we can strengthen the organizations on which we all depend.

Charity Fraud Awareness Week encourages the participation of all organizations, regardless of their size, to discuss fraud in the sector and to share with each other best practices to address and prevent it.

Charity Fraud Awareness Week features a social media campaign that promotes wise giving tips for consumers. This year the campaign also features cybersecurity and data security guidance for nonprofits. Tune into the weeklong discussion at [#CharityFraudOut2020](https://twitter.com/Atghlgov) and follow Hawaii Attorney General on Twitter <https://twitter.com/Atghlgov> for daily tips.

The week's activities are designed to involve trustees, directors, board members, staff and volunteers of charities, groups that assist or represent the sector; attorneys, accountants and others who advise the sector; and state and federal agencies that regulate the sector. The wide-range of recommended activities allow participants to choose those that address their interests and fit their schedules.

This year's campaign has three core messages:

- Be fraud aware
- Take time to check
- Keep your charity safe

Becoming involved in Charity Fraud Awareness Week is easy. The Advisory Panel's Supporter-Packet - <https://359zpa2vui8h3p4u7j2qlmlg-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/CFAW-2020-Supporter-Pack.pdf> will give you're an overview and the website will give you information to:

- Download the campaign materials from our [supporter asset bundle](#)
- Take part in the social media campaign using [#CharityFraudOut](#)
- Use the free tutorials, on-demand webinars, videos, case studies and help sheets, available on the [online charity fraud awareness hub](#)
- Organize some activities for your staff and volunteers, members and beneficiaries, donors and supporters, customers and clients.

Every day, we read and hear about fraud – no one and no sector is immune. Fraud and cybercrime are on the rise. That is why it is so important for charities of all shapes, sizes and types, their representatives and government regulators to protect their income and assets that have been donated to support the individuals and communities they serve.

Organizations and individuals are urged to access Charity Fraud Awareness Week's website to take advantage of its resources and identify ways in which they may participate in and contribute to the week's activities.

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