



# HUD Early Warning System

**Know it. Avoid it. Report it.**

HUD has launched a new public awareness and enforcement campaign specifically targeting loan modification scammers, calling on the general public to take three specific actions: "Know it. Avoid it. Report it."

According to HUD.gov, each day, scam artists posing as financial advisors and/or debt relief consultants take advantage of vulnerable homeowners whose homes have been threatened by economic difficulty. They will often make promises that seem too good to be true, guaranteeing services that will either lower a monthly payment or eliminate back debt in order to save one's home.

To stop this activity, HUD has merged the efforts of NeighborWorks America, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the Homeowners' HOPE Hotline at 888-995-HOPE to provide an "early warning system" that empowers homeowners to protect themselves and their homes, while providing the tools necessary to take action so that law enforcement agencies across the country can put a stop to these unacceptable practices.

**The purpose of this campaign is to:**

- » **Strengthen the fight against loan modification scammers**
- » **Support existing law enforcement efforts**
- » **Curb the negative impact of scam activity on the current housing market**
- » **Build a coalition of HUD partners for this effort nationwide**
- » **Maximize the public's awareness of mortgage fraud and loan modification scams**

HUD's anti-scam campaign speaks directly to homeowners who might be looking for help in meeting their mortgage payments. HUD's goal is to help American homeowners empower themselves with knowledge to shield themselves from scammers and report scam activity.

To access information please visit: [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/housing/prevent\\_loan\\_scams](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/housing/prevent_loan_scams)