

WARNING TO ASPEN TIMESHARES OWNERS

It has been brought to our attention that there is a timeshare selling scam happening in this area. The basic “timeshare resale” fraud works like this: Scammers target likely sellers of timeshares with the promise that they either have a buyer ready to purchase your timeshare or the assurance that they can sell it. All you need to do is pay an upfront fee—usually via a wire transfer—to cover closing costs, services, taxes, timeshare maintenance or other fees.

Unfortunately, once you send the money, no sale, rental or purchase is completed and the scammer disappears with hundreds—even thousands—of dollars. These people will usually call you on the phone to alert you to an owners’ meeting.

Aspen Timeshares will always alert you about any owners’ meeting by mail, never by phone.

To avoid becoming the latest casualty of scammers, follow these steps to stay free of possible fraud:

1. **Be wary of upfront fees.** Legitimate fees are typically paid after the sale is concluded or are deducted from the sale price.
2. **If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.** Timeshare resale scammers often promise they have a buyer who is ready and willing to pay a lot in order to get you to send money. Be cautious; no one can promise a quick sale.
3. **Don’t wire money, pay in cash or credit card, or send a money order, certified bank or cashier’s check.** Money sent by these methods is very difficult for law enforcement officials to help you recover. It’s as good as lost.
4. **Do your research.** Don’t be tricked by a fancy address or professional-looking website. Contact the [State Attorney General](#) and [local consumer protection agencies](#) in the state where the reseller is located, as well as the [Better Business Bureau](#), to determine if there are any existing complaints.
5. **Check with your resort.** Find out whether the resort where your timeshare is located imposes any restrictions, fees or other limitations associated with sales. Ask if the resort has its own resale program or has ever worked with the reseller who has contacted you.
6. **Demand everything in writing.** Consider having an attorney review the documents before you sign anything.

Please contact the Aspen Timeshares office, if there are any questions or concerns.

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