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# HAMILTON COUNTY COALITION to **STOP** FRAUD, SCAMS & ABUSE



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## Presentation: Colerain Township Board of Trustees

Dennis P. Deters, President

Jeff Ritter, Vice President

Joseph R. Woltermann, Trustee

Heather E. Harlow, Fiscal Officer

January 25, 2011



Kellie Wise, Director of Communications

Commissioner Greg Hartmann

January 25, 2011



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# The Need

- **Focus: Create awareness and proactively educate County residents to defend themselves from consumer fraud, identity theft and scams**
  - In 2009, over 2500 Hamilton Co. residents were convicted of fraud-related offenses
  - In 2007, Ohio consumers made 18,894 complaints of fraud, and 7,178 complaints of identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
  - In 2007, U.S. consumers reported a total of \$1.2 billion lost to fraud.
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.....and sadly, many more  
cases of fraud and  
scams are

**UNREPORTED!**

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# Coalition overview

## ■ Members include:

- ❑ Better Business Bureau
- ❑ Cincinnati Police Department
- ❑ Cooney Faulkner & Stevens
- ❑ Council on Aging
- ❑ Duke Energy
- ❑ FBI
- ❑ Greater Cincinnati Auto Dealer's Association
- ❑ Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Apartment Association
- ❑ Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development
- ❑ Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services
- ❑ Hamilton County Job and Family Services
- ❑ Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office
- ❑ Homebuilder's Association of Greater Cincinnati
- ❑ Homeownership Center of Greater Cincinnati
- ❑ Metropolitan Sewer District
- ❑ Pro Seniors
- ❑ University of Cincinnati
- ❑ Xavier University



# Our Work: *Comprehensive Community Plan*

- Foundational work of Coalition
- Organized by 12 constituencies impacted by fraud and scams
- Living document to be updated as necessary and revisited each year

## Hamilton County Coalition to Stop Fraud, Scams & Abuse



## Comprehensive Community Plan

Presented January 18, 2011  
Last updated: January 18, 2011

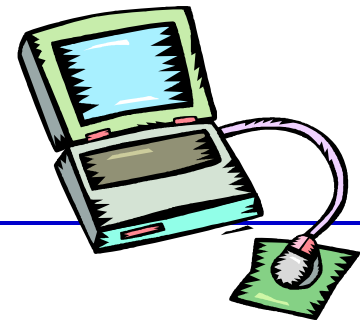


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**Our Work:** [www.hamilton-co.org/fraud](http://www.hamilton-co.org/fraud)

- *Plan* made accessible for more residents
- Features: 'News Room', 'Speakers Bureau', opportunity for 'Community Partnerships'
- Lists law enforcement and reporting agencies, plus local PD by zip code
- 'Contact Us' page allows residents to share fraud or scams we missed



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## Our Work: *Community Outreach*

- Monthly focus – January is ‘foreclosure rescue scams’
- Community partnerships
- Speak with local jurisdictional body, like you!
- Social Media campaign



**‘Hamilton County Coalition to  
Stop Fraud, Scams & Abuse’**



**@HamCoFraudScams**

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# 2011 Community Outreach Timeline

- *January:* Foreclosure scams
- *February:* Small business fraud; Job opportunity/placement scams
- *March:* Public assistance scams; Government fraud; Spring break scams
- *April:* Identity theft
- *May:* Senior fraud; Individuals with Developmental Disabilities scams
- *June:* Home repair scams
- *July:* Online safety
- *August:* Auto repair and used-car/lemon scams
- *September:* Student fraud
- *October:* Identity theft
- *November:* Charity scams; Sweepstakes and contests
- *December:* Foreclosure scams





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# Thank you!

