

COMPLIANCE MATTERS.

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3 | December 2023

News and Insights from Chapman's Department of Institutional
Compliance and Internal Audit



IN THIS ISSUE

Donations Introduction

Learn why it's important to take a second look before donating

Charitable Giving Article

Learn about how to protect yourself during the season of giving

Additional Resources

More resources about Charitable Giving from the California Attorney General.

Giving Bingo!

Test out your knowledge with a game of matching BINGO to win a prize!

A warm, cozy scene featuring a fireplace with a bright fire. Four patterned stockings (red, blue, and two beige) are hanging from the mantel. The top and bottom of the page are decorated with a garland of green pine branches and warm white lights.

Intro To Giving

By Peter Aguila

It's the season for giving! The holidays are often seen as a great time to give to causes that we believe in. According to the 2023 **M+R Benchmarks Report**, December giving accounts for roughly one fourth (26%) of annual nonprofit revenue and nonprofits raise 17-31% of online revenue in December. If you plan on giving this holiday season, you should also be aware of fraudsters.

Pulling at Heart strings

Nothing causes people to show empathy more, than sick children. National Children's Leukemia Foundation (NCLF), which was founded by a man who reportedly lost his own son to leukemia and therefore had an intimate understanding of what the families of leukemia patients need.

NCLF took in around \$9.7 million in charitable contributions, but according to **CNN** spent only \$57,000 on assistance for leukemia patients.

Charitable Donations

By Peter Aguila
Senior Compliance
Investigator

It can be hard to find a charity that will make the most use of your donation. According to **Forbes**, "When choosing a charity, look for one that dedicates less than 30% of its total costs to administration and fundraising expenses. That way, you can be sure your charity has an eye on maximizing your gift."

You can find out more about how a charity performs by referring to one of the following sites:

- **BBB Wise Giving Alliance**
- **Charity Navigator**
- **CharityWatch**
- **Candid**



The California Attorney General, Rob Bonta, has provided California donors with tips to avoid fraud and other scams when making charitable donations.



See the next section for more information.

Coming up:

Best ways to protect yourself from scams

Tips and Tricks to Avoid Fraud

An Activity for a Prize Ahead!



TIPS TO AVOID FRAUD & SCAMS

Check Registration Status:

- Charities and fundraisers in California must register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts.
- Verify registration and financial reporting through the Registry Verification Search tool.

Give to Trusted Organizations:

- Research charities' financial reports to understand how donations are allocated.
- Support charities in your community with a positive impact.

Question Telemarketers:

- When contacted by telemarketers, ask for details such as the fundraising organization's name, registration status, and how funds will be distributed.
- Confirm solicitations with the benefiting organization directly.

Beware of Fake Websites & Emails:

- Watch for fake websites and emails with slightly altered URLs or email addresses.
- Avoid websites with numeric endings in the URL.
- Be cautious about providing personal information online.



AVOIDING FRAUD AND SCAMS IN CHARITBLE DONATIONS CONT.

Watch for Deceptive Tactics:

- Be cautious of organizations with names similar to reputable charities.
- Verify emails claiming you made a donation, especially if it seems unfamiliar.
- Check your records if unsure about a donations

Exercise Caution with Social Network Fundraising:

- Research online or social media fundraisers before donating.
- Confirm the percentage going to the charity and any associated fees.

Protect Your Identity:

- Avoid sharing sensitive information like Social Security numbers in response to solicitations.
- Review a charity's privacy policy before donating.

Electronic Donations Safety:

- Verify the legitimacy of electronic donation solicitations.
- Confirm that transactions are accurate on receipts and credit card/PayPal statements.

Citations



Registry Search Tool <https://rct.doj.ca.gov/Verification/Web/Search.aspx?facility=Y>

Attorney General Article <https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/ahead-giving-tuesday-attorney-general-bonta-issues-charity-consumer-alert>

Instructions:

Choose 4 of the best strategies for safe "giving" and list them HERE.

Participants will receive a first aid kit , stationary bag, or a travel kit.

Giving Bingo

Understand How Donations Are Allocated	Confirm Solicitations Go Directly to Organization	Verify Legitimacy of Electronic Donations	Be Cautious When Social Network Fundraising
Watch Out for Deceptive Tactics	Watch for Altered URLS or Emails	Give to Trusted Organizations	Check Registration Status
FREE 😊	Question Telemarketers	Register with Registry of Charitable Trusts	Research Online Before Donating
Beware of Fake Websites & Emails	Avoid Sharing Sensitive Information	Support Charities in Your Community	Protect Your Identity