

# California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation

FORMERLY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT

DATA-DRIVEN CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL REGULATION FOR A RESILIENT MARKETPLACE



### **PROTECTING CALIFORNIA CONSUMERS**

Every year thousands of consumers report harmful business practices that end up costing millions of dollars in lost savings and decrease trust in financial institutions. In California, the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) is here to protect you from financial fraud and scams. By working closely with other state, federal and local entities, we promote consumer safety and take legal action to shut down bad actors.

In 2020,
enforcement cases
produced more
than \$18 million in
restitution orders,
helping California
consumers recover
financial losses
after falling prey
to scams.





#### **OUR WORK IN ACTION**

For decades, we have worked to oversee and regulate financial services and products that include:

- Banks and Credit Unions
- Investment Advisors and Broker-Dealers
- Payday Loan Companies
- Consumer and Commercial Loan Companies
- Student Loan Servicersrs

- Mortgage Lenders
- Escrow Agents
- Money Transmitters
- Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Administrators
- Offer or sale of securities or franchises

## 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Responded to nearly 37,000 consumer calls



Directed companies to deliver \$18.1 million in restitution to California consumers



Led more than 26 financial presentations to educate and empower California consumers

## SAME MISSION, EXPANDED SCOPE

Thanks to the California Consumer Financial Protection Law, we now have the power to protect the most vulnerable in our communities, including from pandemic-inspired scams. Starting Jan. 1, 2021, we'll now be able to oversee new industries, including:

- Debt Collectors
- Credit Repair Agencies
- Consumer Credit Agencies



- Rent-to-Own Contractors
- Private Colleges Funding
- Debt Relief Providers

## If you've been a victim of financial fraud or scams, we are here to help.

Call us toll-free at (866) 275-2677 or file a complaint online at <a href="https://www.dfpi.ca.gov/file-a-complaint">www.dfpi.ca.gov/file-a-complaint</a>.



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