



# Family Law

CALL US - BEFORE  
YOUR EX DOES!

## A

My mom used to say, "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is!" You may be a victim of a romance scam. Scammers escalate a relationship as quickly as possible, express their love for you, gain your trust, then ask for money.

Watch out for warning signs:

1. Conversations switch quickly to your phone or email;
2. The relationship escalates to "love" very quickly;
3. They ask for money early on;
4. They ask about your finances, or ask for intimate photos;
5. They work "abroad" and suggest you go there;
6. They never meet face-to-face;
7. They have no consistent online presence;

DO:

1. Google search for their name, picture and/or profile;
2. Call the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre 1-888-495-8501;
3. Contact the dating site and report the suspicious profile;

4. Contact police if you have sent/received money;
5. Tell your bank to change any account information you shared;

Don't be a victim, don't send the money. What he's asking could have serious and long lasting consequences for you, including wiping out your savings and being charged with fraud or money laundering. If he loves you, the money is not an issue. If he makes it an issue, something is **wrong**.

You are not alone – the embarrassment and loss from romance scammers hurts thousands of victims a year, who have not only lost money but feel humiliated and betrayed by someone who they thought loved them.

How do you meet someone? In this case, old school – getting involved with your local church, community center, gym, hobby, sport or charity are all good places to start.

Your friends at Shank Law.



Roxanne C. Shank  
LAWYER

## Q

I met my match online a few months ago. He is perfect! We haven't met yet, but he needs my help transferring money "to his family". I want to help but I am nervous! What should I do?



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