

HUGHES | FINANCIAL
SERVICES, LLC





2021 Identity Theft & Financial Scams

Don't Be A Statistic
... Protect Yourself
Today!



TODAY'S SPEAKERS



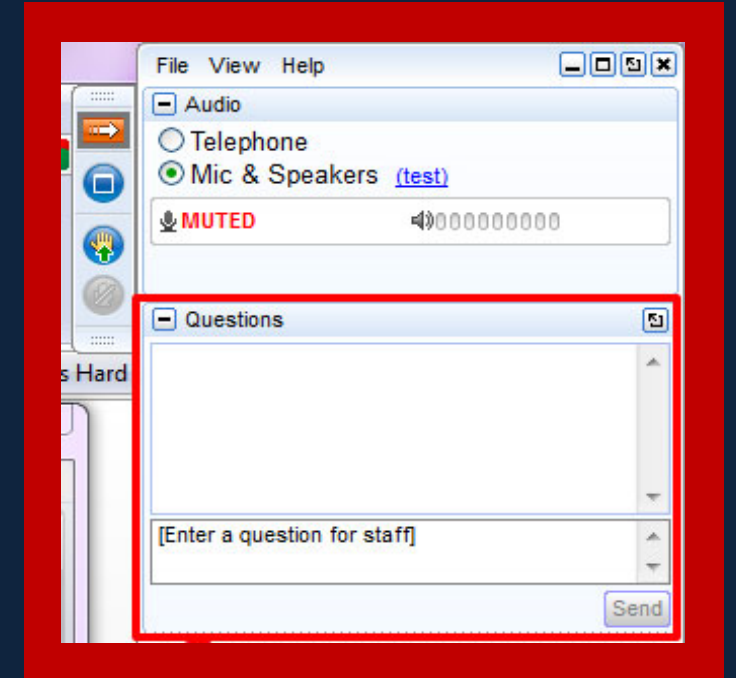
PATRICK HUGHES, CFP
Managing Partner & Financial Advisor



BERKELEY MEREDITH, CFP
Financial Advisor



HAVE QUESTIONS?



ABOUT HUGHES FINANCIAL SERVICES



RIA

Independent
Registered
Investment
Advisor



Comprehensive
financial planning
and wealth
management



Fiduciary



Professional
certifications
and continuing
education



Over 90 years
combined
experience

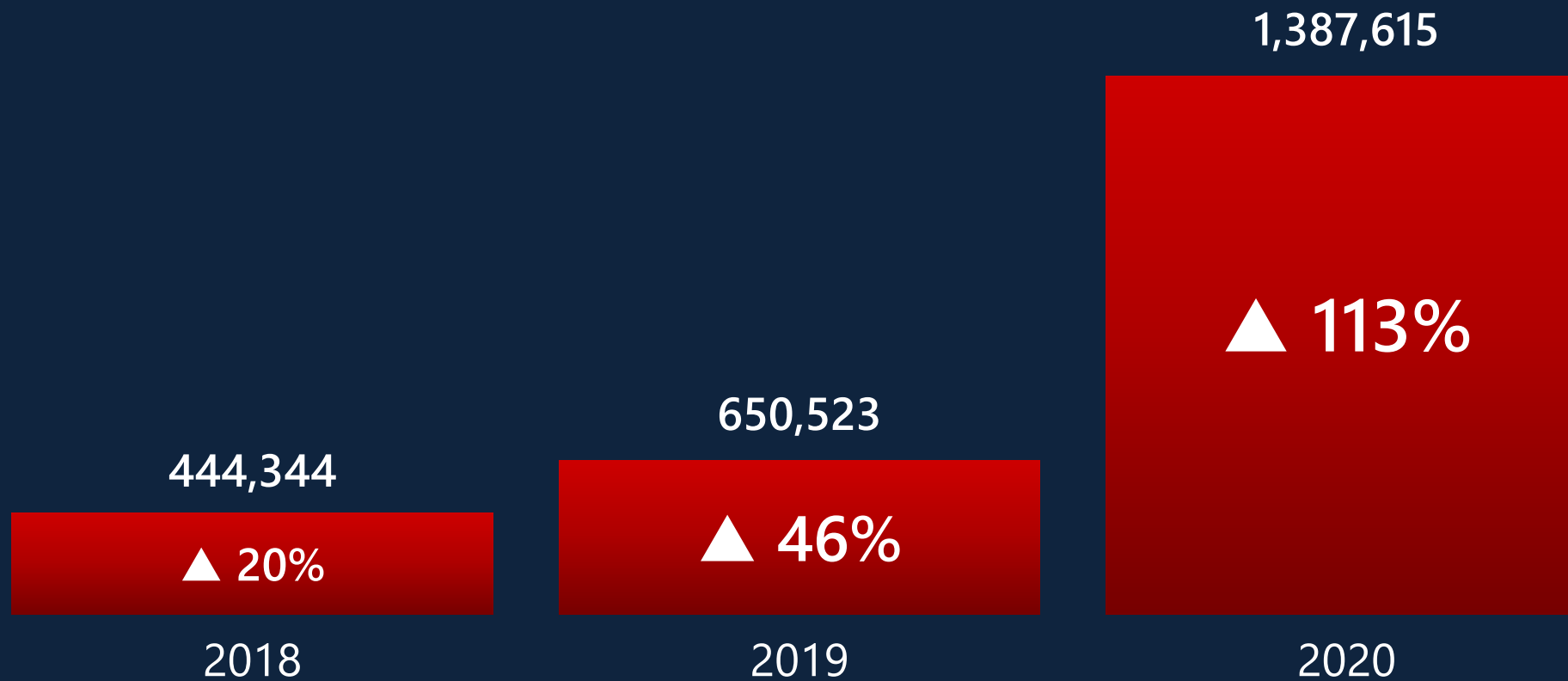
A close-up, blue-tinted image of a computer keyboard. A black padlock icon is overlaid on a key in the center. The text "Every 2 seconds there's a case of identity theft in the U.S...." is written in white over the image.

Every 2 seconds there's a case
of identity theft in the U.S....

Are you next?

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Increased Risk of Identity Theft in 2021



2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Increased Risk of Identity Theft in 2021



"In 2020 ... the largest number of complaints and highest dollar losses in 20 years." ▲ 113%

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Government-Sponsored Benefits Fraud



SBA LOANS

2019:
43,920

2020:
99,650



STIMULUS PAYMENTS

2019:
27,450

2020:
89,390



UNEMPLOYMENT

2019:
12,900

2020:
Almost
400,000

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Government-Sponsored Benefits Fraud: Social Security and Medicare



SCAM: Tricked into revealing personal information such as Medicare, Social Security or bank account number

KEY: Government agencies will NEVER call, email or text asking for personal information or trying to sell something

ACTION ITEM:

- When in doubt, hang up and call the agency directly
- Check statements regularly for anything unusual

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Tax Season Spear-Phishing and Malware Scam



2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

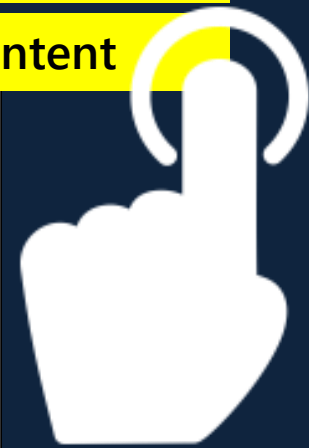
Tax Season Spear-Phishing and Malware Scam

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2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Tax Season Spear-Phishing and Malware Scam





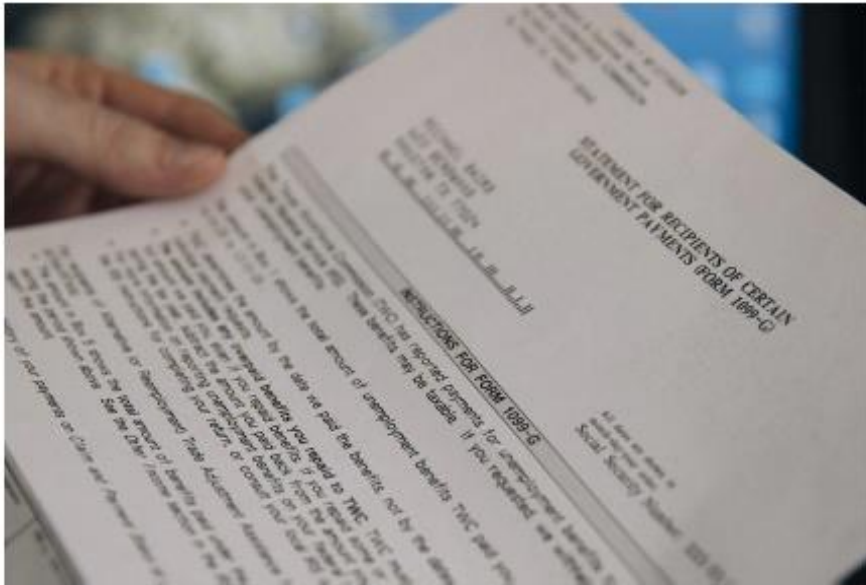
**IT'S A
TRAP!**

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Unemployment Benefit Fraud Victims Face Tax Season Surprise

Victims of Unemployment-Benefit Fraud Face Tax-Season Surprise

States are sending forms showing benefits received to thousands of people who didn't get any money



Michael Baird received a form noting unemployment compensation even though he never applied for jobless benefits.

ACTION ITEM:

- Consider freezing your credit
- Report the fraud through state unemployment agency and fraud units
- Do not include income from fraudulent 1099-Gs on federal tax returns

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

A New Twist on an Old Scam: Grandparents' Scam



2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

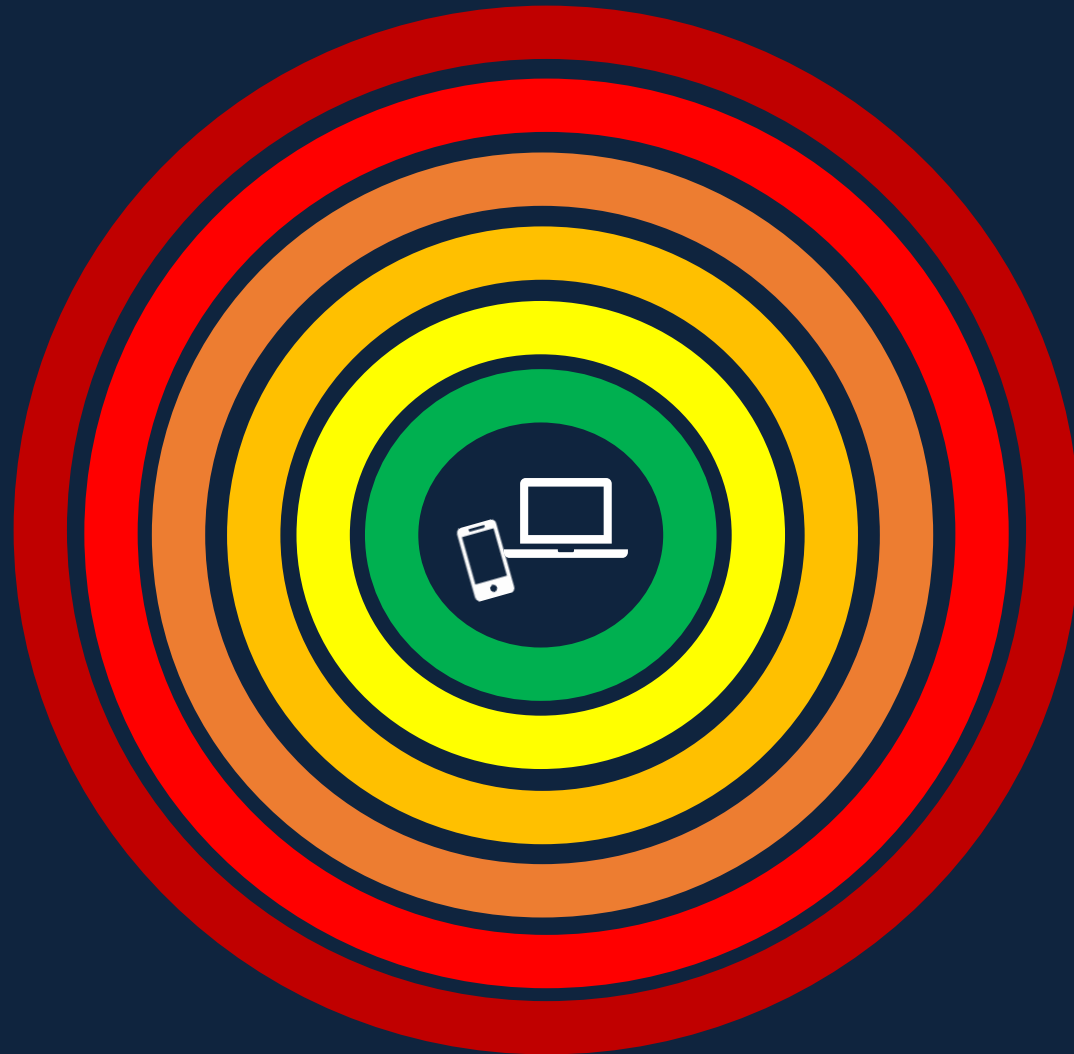
Cybersecurity is Like Home Security

LAYERS OF SECURITY TOOLS



2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Keeping the Bad Guys Out One Layer at a Time



- Stay alert for phishing scams
- Browse internet carefully
- Strong passwords, 2-factor authentication, password managers
- Keep software up-to-date and secure your devices
- Back up your data
- Anti-virus/malware software



2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

Keeping the Bad Guys Out One Layer at a Time



- Unsolicited efforts to sell something should be viewed with skepticism
- Don't rush or succumb to pressure or threats to provide personal info
- Say NO when anyone asks for personal info by phone, text or email
- Check links and attachments before clicking on them
- Go to official websites for verified info and updates
- Monitor credit annually – it's free!





5 STAR TIP

COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.

Last Name

Date of birth

First Name

MI

Patient number

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1* Dose COVID-19		mm dd yy	
2* Dose COVID-19		mm dd yy	
3* Dose COVID-19		mm dd yy	
		mm dd yy	
		mm dd yy	

2021 IDENTITY THEFT & FINANCIAL SCAMS

ID Theft Trends 2021



Victim
assistance
funding cuts



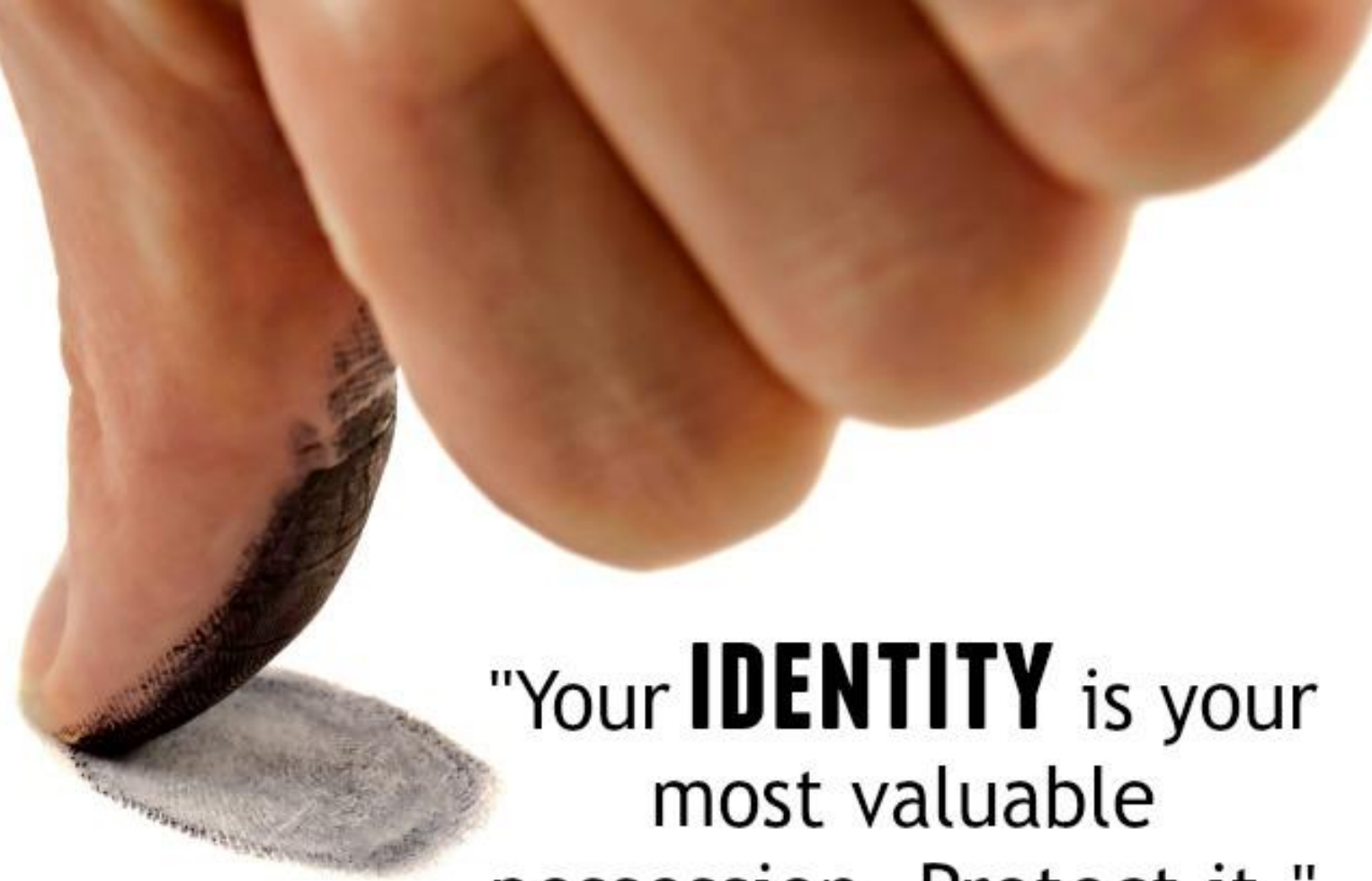
Changes in
focus, tactics
and methods



Pandemic-
related fraud
continues



Public policy
changes



"Your **IDENTITY** is your
most valuable
possession. Protect it."

~Elastigirl, The Incredibles

Disney PRESENTS A PIXAR FILM
THE INCREDIBLES
2-DISC COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Hughes Financial Services will be hosting **20-minute virtual educational Lunch & Learn sessions** during which we'll do a deep dive on an array of financial planning topics. Grab your device and lunch and join us each **Wednesday at 12:00 pm** to juice up your financial planning knowledge!



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3rd

Estate Planning in 2021 with Guest Speaker Martha Sotelo, Esq., Principal, Vaughan, Fincher & Sotelo, PC

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th

Tax Planning in 2021: What to Expect & Plan For with Guest Speaker Liz Nuti, President, Accounting & Tax Solutions, Inc.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17th

ESG Investing: What is it and should you consider it in your financial plan?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th

The 2021 Plan to Protect Yourself Against Identity Theft and Cybercrimes

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31st

The Many Ways to Invest in Real Estate

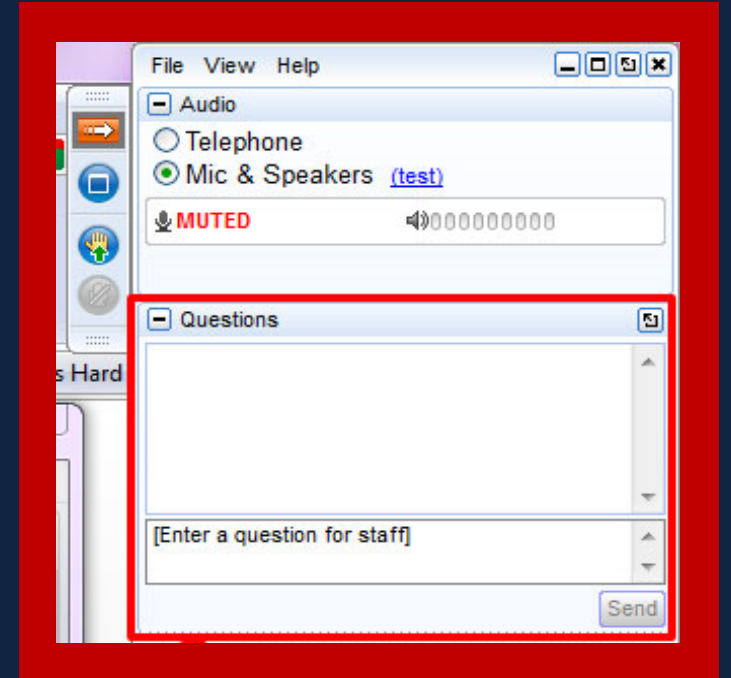
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7th

2020 Was the Year of the Roth – What About 2021?

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.H4FS.COM



HAVE
QUESTIONS?



CONTACT INFORMATION

CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES

EXPERIAN 888-397-3742
www.experian.com/freeze

EQUIFAX 866-349-5191
www.freeze.equifax.com

TRANSUNION 888-909-8872
www.transunion.com/credit-freeze/place-credit-freeze

OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN TODAY'S PRESENTATION

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
www.ftc.gov

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU
www.bbb.org

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
www.irs.gov



If you have questions about this presentation, please contact us at:
(703) 669-3660 or clientservices@h4fs.com

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We offer our clients an impressive wealth of expertise in retirement and estate planning, investment and risk management, insurance, and education planning. Our advisers hold a variety of professional designations and certifications and are well versed in a number of financial disciplines. Our combined education and experience allows us to proudly offer you independent financial advice that you can trust.

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Sources: IRS; FTC; AARP; CNBC; WSJ; IRTC; FBI; Envision Consulting; Experian; Transunion; Equifax; Better Business Bureau; Department of Labor; NBC News; The Incredibles

2201 Cooperative Way ■ Suite 150 ■ Herndon, VA 20171
(703) 669-3660 ■ FAX (703) 880-4905 ■ www.h4fs.com

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