A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

THE BIG PAYOUT IS THE BAIT.

DON'T BE THE PIG ON THEIR PLATE.

How the "pig butchering" crypto scam works, the red flags to watch for, and **what to do instead.**



FREE GUIDE

WRITTEN FOR EVERYONE, EASY TO READ

From Start My Business Inc.

IF YOU CAN'T VISIT IT, VERIFY IT, OR CALL IT, DON'T FUND IT.

QUESTIONS? CALL US

(888) 534-4145

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE · LAS VEGAS, NV · OCTOBER 2026

START MY BUSINESS INC. WARNS THE PUBLIC ABOUT "PIG BUTCHERING" CRYPTO SCAMS

Start My Business Inc. is sharing this free guide to help people spot fake crypto investments before they lose money, and to show safer ways to build income.

WHAT IS IT?

It is a scam that starts small. A stranger gets friendly with you. Then they show you an "investment" in crypto. You put in a little money. You see it grow. They even let you take some out.

That first payout is the trick. It makes you trust them. So you put in more. And more. When you run out of money, they vanish, and so does your money.

The scammers call it **"pig butchering."** They "fatten up" the victim with trust before they take everything.

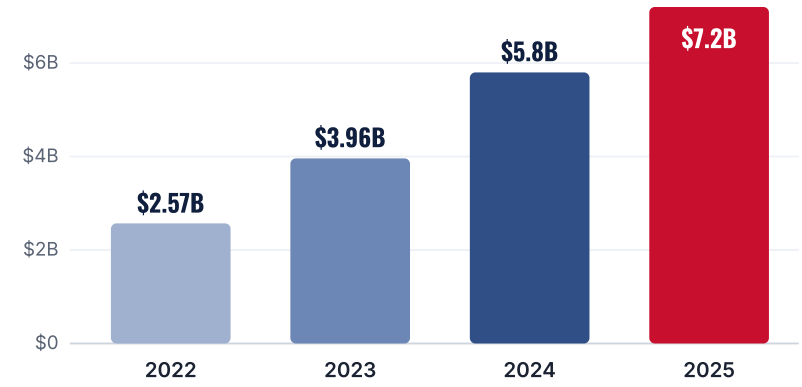
WHY WE ARE SPEAKING UP

We recently watched a friend get taken this way. It hurt to see. These scams are run by large crime groups. They use scripts and fake apps. Smart, careful people get fooled every day.

> *"You can be a good person who wants to help others and still get targeted. We want people to know the signs, and to know there is a better path."*
>
> COREY PEARSON, CO-FOUNDER, START MY BUSINESS INC.

THE LOSSES KEEP GROWING

CRYPTO INVESTMENT SCAM LOSSES REPORTED TO THE FBI



Source: FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) reports, 2023–2025. These are only the losses people reported. The real number is likely much higher.

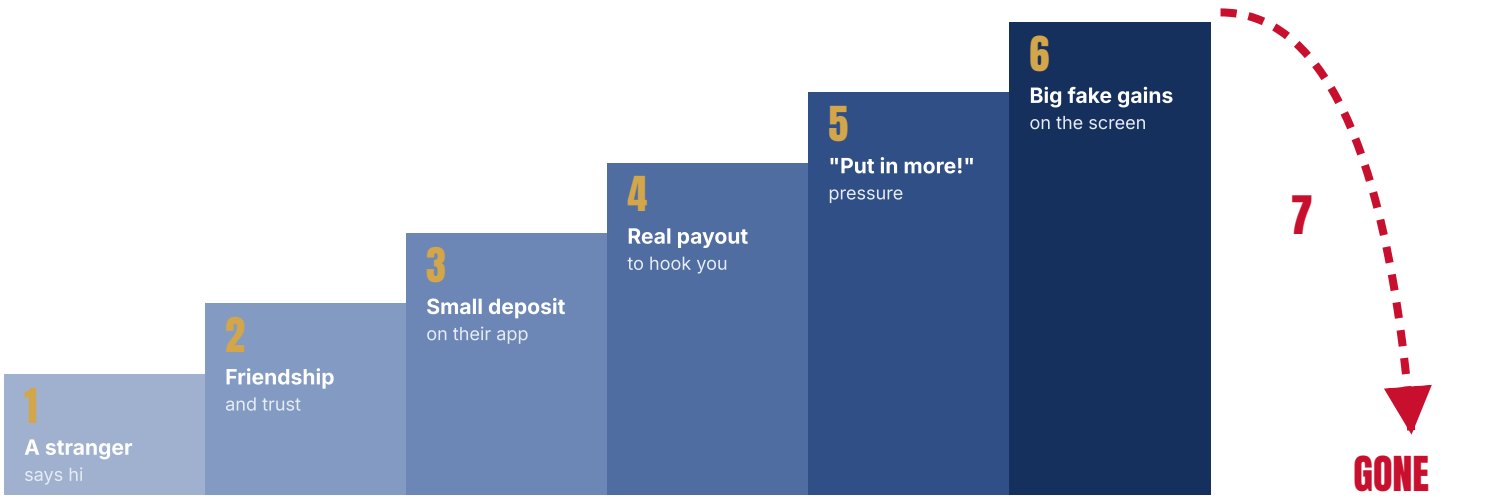
$7.2B
lost to crypto investment scams in 2025, the #1 source of losses reported to the FBI.

2.8×
bigger than in 2022. The losses nearly tripled in three years.

$4.4B
in crypto losses hit people age 60 and up in 2025.

STEP BY STEP

THEY WALK YOU UP THE STAIRS. THEN THEY PUSH.



1-2
THEY FIND YOU

A "wrong number" text, a dating app, social media, or a group chat. They are kind and patient. This can last weeks.

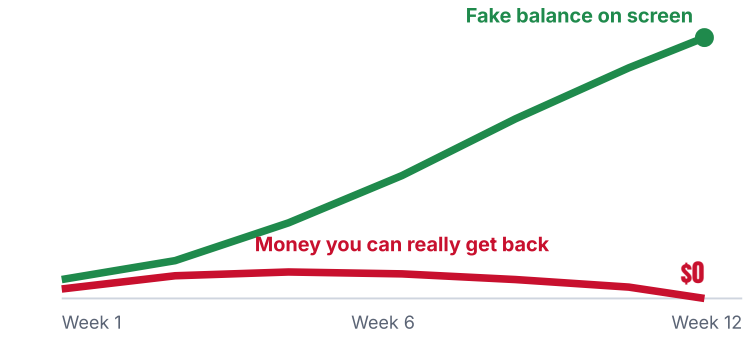
3-4
THEY HOOK YOU

They show you an app or site. You put in a little. They let you take some profit out. Now you believe it is real.

5-6
THEY SQUEEZE YOU

"Big chance! Only today!" The screen shows huge gains. You add savings, loans, or credit cards.

WHAT THE APP SHOWS VS. WHAT YOU CAN REALLY GET BACK



Example only. The numbers on a scam app are made up. They type them in.

STEP 7: THE TRAP CLOSES

When you try to cash out, or say you are out of money, the story changes:

- "You owe a **tax** first."
- "Pay a **fee** to unlock your account."
- "The fund **went bad**."
- Then they stop answering. For good.

The FBI says these scams keep going until the victim runs out of money or catches on.

THE RED FLAG LIST

See even **one** of these? Stop. Do not send money. Talk to someone you trust first.

1. **You have never met them.**
   Not in person. Not on a real video call. Only texts.

2. **It is in another country.**
   The person or the company is overseas, far from US law.

3. **You can't reach them easily.**
   No real office. No phone that a real person answers.

4. **They promise big, sure returns.**
   "Guaranteed." "No risk." "Double your money." Real investing has risk.

5. **They rush you.**
   "Only today!" Pressure is a tool to stop you from thinking.

6. **They let you win at first.**
   A small early payout is often the bait, not proof.

7. **You must pay to get paid.**
   Taxes, fees, or "unlock" deposits before a withdrawal.

8. **Only crypto, wire, or gift cards.**
   These are hard or impossible to get back.

9. **A strange app or website.**
   Not in the official app store, or the web address looks a little off.

10. **They move the chat.**
    From a dating app to WhatsApp, Telegram, or Signal, fast.

11. **"Keep it a secret."**
    They tell you not to tell family, friends, or your bank.

12. **A "mentor" or "uncle" with secret tips.**
    An insider who just happens to want to help you.

13. **They ask you to borrow.**
    Loans, credit cards, or home equity to "put in more."

14. **It feels too good to be true.**
    It almost always is. Trust that feeling.

THE "THEN WHAT?" TEST

Before you send money, ask: **If all of it disappears tomorrow, then what?**

- Who would I call? Would a real person pick up?
- Where would I go? Is there a real address I can visit?
- Which court would help me? In which country?

If you have no good answer, the answer is no.

GOT CAUGHT? YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

1
STOP PAYING
Do not send one more dollar. Not for "taxes." Not for "fees." That money is gone too.

2
SAVE EVERYTHING
Screenshots of chats, the app, the website, phone numbers, and every crypto wallet address and transaction ID.

3
REPORT IT
FBI: **ic3.gov**
FTC: **reportfraud.ftc.gov**
Reports help the FBI track and freeze money.

4
CALL YOUR BANK
Also call the crypto exchange you used. Move fast. Sometimes money can be flagged or frozen.

5
LOCK IT DOWN
Change your passwords. Turn on two-step login. Delete any apps they told you to install.

6
TELL SOMEONE
Talk to family or a friend. Shame is how scammers keep people quiet. You did nothing wrong by trusting.

! **WATCH OUT FOR THE SECOND SCAM: "RECOVERY" OFFERS**

After you lose money, someone may reach out. They say they are a lawyer, a hacker, a "recovery firm," or even the government. They promise to get your money back **if you pay first**. This is almost always the same crooks, coming back for more. Real police and FBI agents never charge you to get your money back.

A SCAM VS. A REAL BUSINESS

QUESTION	CRYPTO SCAM	A REAL US BUSINESS
Can you visit it?	No. It is "overseas."	Yes. Real address, real people.
Who owns it?	A screen name.	You do. Your name is on the paperwork.
Can you call?	Only a chat app.	Yes. Phone and email that work.
What law protects you?	None you can reach.	US and state law, real contracts.
Where does money come from?	From you, and the next victim.	From real customers buying real things.
Can you prove it?	Only a number on their app.	Yes. Real bank deposits you can show.

THERE IS A BETTER PATH

DON'T CHASE A PAYOUT. BUILD SOMETHING YOU OWN.

A scam makes you nervous and keeps you guessing. A real business lets you see every step, every sale, and every dollar.



Form your LLC, get your EIN, and start building business credit with Start My Business Inc. Learn more at **startmybusiness.us**.

HOW WE HELP

Start My Business Inc. has helped people start businesses since 1999. Our owners have 30+ years of learning one thing: **a good business serves people well.**

- **We do about 95% of the work.** Setup, websites, and tech problems are on us.
- **100+ proven niches** to pick from.
- **No business degree needed.** Many of our owners are 20 to 25.
- **AI and automations** run in the background, so you don't have to touch them.

PICK WHAT YOU LIKE. WE BUILD THE REST.

CRAFTS
Sell what you love to make.

3D PRINTING
Print and sell useful items.

TRAINING FUNNELS
Teach a skill online. Example price: about $1,000, or 3 payments of $331.

DIGITAL SERVICES
Online services with very little overhead.

YOUR FIRST 90 DAYS

1

MONTH 1: SET UP
Pick a niche. We build it.

2

MONTH 2: LAUNCH
Light ads. First customers.

3

MONTH 3: RUNNING
Smoother, steadier, automated.

Most businesses take two to three months to get up and running well. Timing varies.

THE GOLDEN GOOSE

REAL CUSTOMERS. REAL MONEY. REAL PROOF.

A website that sells a helpful digital service can keep working for you. Here is how the money moves.

1 Light Ads — bring visitors

2 Your Website — runs 24/7

3 Customers Buy — a service they need

4 Real Deposits — into your account

5 Bank Statements — you can verify

AI and automations handle follow-ups, emails, and reminders in the background.

WHY REAL BANK STATEMENTS MATTER

After two or three months of real sales, your bank statements show real income. Your bank can confirm them. That history can help when you apply for business credit or a loan later. A scam app can never give you that.

LOW OVERHEAD, STRONG MARGINS

Digital services have no store to rent and little or no stock to buy. The main cost is usually advertising. Some digital businesses keep **50% to 70%** of each sale as profit. Your results depend on your niche, your effort, and your ads.

EXAMPLE: A $331 PAYMENT AT A 60% MARGIN

You keep ≈ $199	Ads + costs ≈ $132

Illustration only, not a promise. Your numbers will be different.

Zoom out. When a business pays you steadily, you get time to think. Use that money for the things you care about: your family, your goals, and investments that provide real value.

WHAT RUNS IN THE BACKGROUND FOR YOU

YOUR WEBSITE
Built, hosted, and kept running for you.

PAYMENTS
Customers pay online, including payment plans.

FOLLOW-UPS
Automatic emails and texts to new leads and buyers.

AI HELPERS
AI answers common questions and keeps things moving.

AD SETUP
Help setting up light, simple advertising.

TECH SUPPORT
When something breaks, we fix it. You don't have to.

OUR FAMILY OF COMPANIES

PROTECT WHAT YOU BUILD. HELP OTHERS TOO.



KEEP IT SAFE: 508MINISTRY.COM

Scammers look for people with money and no protection. A trust can help keep your assets and your family's future safe. Through **508ministry.com**, Start My Business Inc. helps people set up trusts and learn about 508 options, so what you earn stays protected from the jackals out there.

WORK THAT HELPS PEOPLE: FORECLOSURE RECOVERY INC.

When a home is sold at a foreclosure or tax sale, there is sometimes money left over after the debt is paid. In many cases, that money belongs to the former owner. Most people never find out it is there.

At **Foreclosure Recovery Inc.** (usforeclosurerecovery.com), asset recovery agents help those families claim it. The homeowner pays nothing up front. We cover the attorneys, notaries, and filing costs. Our agents get agreements signed every day doing work they can feel good about.

> **Want to become an asset recovery agent?** Visit **usforeclosureleads.com**

THE SUPREME COURT AGREES

In **Tyler v. Hennepin County (2023)**, all nine justices ruled that a government can collect the debt, but can't just keep the extra value above it.

Our sister site, MyStateFunds.com, helps when the money has already moved to the state.

FAITH. TRUST. INTEGRITY.

We operate in faith, so we operate in trust. Across our companies, we believe you can find a place that helps others, feels good, and never asks you to give up your integrity.

REMEMBER ONE WORD

BEFORE YOU SEND MONEY, STOP.

S

Slow down.
Real chances don't vanish in an hour.

T

Talk to someone.
A friend, family, or your bank.

O

Only use what you can check.
Real address, real phone, US law.

P

Pressure means pause.
The harder they push, the more you wait.

FREE PLACES TO REPORT FRAUD

FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center	ic3.gov
Federal Trade Commission	reportfraud.ftc.gov
Your bank or card company	Number on the back of your card
The crypto exchange you used	Their official support page

Never pay anyone who promises to "recover" your lost crypto for a fee.

SHARE THIS GUIDE

Scammers count on silence. Send this guide to a parent, a grandparent, a friend, or a coworker. One conversation can save someone's savings.

> Want a real business you can see and verify? Start My Business Inc. has helped entrepreneurs since 1999, with 100+ proven niches and about 95% of the work done for you.

ANY QUESTIONS ALWAYS ASK

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support@startmybusiness.us

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About this guide. This public service guide is general education, not legal, tax, or financial advice. Start My Business Inc. is a private company, not a government agency or law firm. Loss figures come from FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) annual reports for 2023, 2024, and 2025, which count only losses that people reported. Business results vary and are not guaranteed. Every business and investment carries risk. Brands named: Start My Business Inc. (startmybusiness.us), 508 Ministry (508ministry.com), Foreclosure Recovery Inc. (usforeclosurerecovery.com), MyStateFunds.com.