

The Honorable André Carson
Opening Statement for U.S. Senate special Committee on Aging Field Hearing
“Trust Your Instincts? Tools to Empower Seniors to Identify Scams and Fraud”
Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis
August 5, 2014

Good morning. I am pleased to be here today and want to thank Senator Donnelly for holding this field hearing to provide resources and trusted information to help our seniors protect their privacy and security.

In this age of information and technology, we are still faced with bad actors who wish to use it to take advantage of others. It is imperative that lawmakers and community leaders continue to examine policies and distribute information that will help prevent fraud.

I am pleased to see that we have witnesses here today who are engaged in informing our community about how to identify and protect themselves from these scams. We all know someone in our lives who can benefit from the tools provided here today and perhaps we can do our part by listening and passing along what we learn.

I hope some of us also leave empowered on what to do if we, or our loved ones, are victims. These criminals succeed when we remain silent and do not report our experiences. As we all continue to work together to improve those resources, basic communication and education remains our most powerful tool.

I would like to thank the Senator again for his leadership on this issue that impacts many Hoosiers. I look forward to learning more about this subject from our esteemed witnesses.