



2755 Jefferson Street, Suite 208, Carlsbad, CA 92008
Phone: (760) 729-8900 Fax: (760) 203-1206

Who Can You Trust?

By - Rick Mayes

You probably have heard about the \$50 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by Bernard Madoff, and wonder who you can trust with your investments. Unfortunately, this incident reflects grave failures by regulatory authorities to monitor a financial company, as well as the impact of human greed and deception.

There are several steps you can take to make sure that your assets are protected from this kind of situation:



Know where your money is – your assets should be in the custody of an established, independent financial institution.

Read your statements – Review the statements that you receive at least quarterly and verify that everything seems in order.

Stay in contact with your advisor – Meet at least annually, and review your affairs so you know specifically how your money is invested.

Work with an advisor who is a fiduciary and always puts your interests first.

Some additional comments are included in [this Press Release](#) from NAPFA, the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors. If I can help you with any questions or concerns, please give me a call.