

Chickahominy Area Triad Scam/Fraud Alert Bulletin #19

Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected

Serving the Counties of New Kent and Charles City, VA.

Туре	Synopsis of Reported Incidents
Fraud: Scam:	The victim reached out to a subject on Facebook Marketplace about a furniture set for sale. The furniture was listed for \$400 and the seller, a "Mindi Blosser" subject, requested a \$150 payment to hold the furniture. The victim used Zelle to transfer \$150 to the subject, but noticed the Zelle account displayed the name "Jennifer Myer". Following the transaction the victim did not receive a response. The victim's daughter subsequently messaged the seller requesting the furniture as well. The seller requested \$150 from her daughter as well. At this point, the victim determined that the listing was a scam.
Fraud: Scam	The victim, a nurse, was contacted by someone claiming they are an officer with the law enforcement branch of the Board of Nursing. This individual stated that several fentanyl pills had just been intercepted crossing into the U. S., they had the victim's name associated with them, and she needed to cooperate with the investigation or lose her license. This individual continued to advise the victim that she cannot share this information with anyone, at home or work, since all of her fellow employees are being investigated as well. Likewise, her nursing license would be secretly suspended until this process was completed. The caller demanded that the victim provide a copy of her driver's license and she complied by sending her DL number as well as a photo of her license. Later that evening, the victim thought harder about the situation, realizing she had been scammed, and contacted the Sheriff's Office.
Fraud: Scam	The victim received an email from a realtor stating someone was attempting to sell a piece of land owned by the victim. The realtor had received a "new lead" email from Zillow. The email was from someone claiming to be the owner of the property, and it read "Hey, I have a vacant lot and I want to sell it, can you help out? Please give me a call when you get

this. The realtor felt it was a scam and contacted the victim alerting her to this situation. No loss was sustained.
The victim advised that she saw a listing for a townhouse on Facebook and engaged the seller. The seller requested money for fees and provided a lease. When the victim arrived to move in, the leasing office had no record of her, and it was discovered to be a scam.
The victim contacted a business on Facebook called "Patrick Puppy's Spot", to buy a puppy. She then provided the contact person, who identified himself as "Patrick", her phone number and they began to communicate through text. She then provided "Patrick's" phone number, 541-210-5975. Patrick advised her it would cost \$500.00 for the puppy plus an additional \$200.00 for other fees. She then transferred the money to another number using Apple Pay. After a few days, she received a text from another number advising identifying themselves as the delivery company and that she needed to provide a delivery fee of \$300.00. When they asked her this, she believed she had been a victim of a scam and told them she no longer wanted the puppy and that she was going to report the incident to the police.
The victim said that one of his friends on Facebook had made a post selling a 2002 Honda Accord. He said that he was interested in purchasing the car from "his friend", and "his friend" stated he needed to pay money to "hold" the car for him because of other multiple buyers wanting to see the car. The victim paid \$300 to a CashApp account with the username "\$larondaMay". The victim then received an email from the same friend stating his account had been hacked, and the victim realized he had been scammed.
The victim was a participant in an online auction and was notified that he won a pontoon boat worth \$29,000. The victim related that the web site looked legit. After being notified that he had won the auction, he was advised that he needed to wire \$3,000 – for taxes & processing fees, before the boat could be shipped. The victim contacted his bank and had to wire the money to auction's company bank account at Citi Bank). The on-line auction company sent him a fake title and bill of sale. Lastly, they informed him when his pontoon boat would be delivered. Needless to say, after many calls he never got his boat or his money back. He even sent them numerous emails and is still writing for a response, beging that one day a positive

response or his boat would come. He related that the website has since been taken down, but the telephone is still active.

NOTE: The reported occurrences depicted in this bulletin are true. **They did not occur within the Counties of New Kent or Charles City, Virginia.** However, they were reported to a Northern Virginia Sheriff's Department or the Better Business Bureau (BBB) or another federal of local law enforcement within the past month. Stay alert, do not become a victim, as you can see it can be costly and do not think that it could not happen to you.





Meta: Chickahominy Area Triad Scam Warriors

www.chickahominytriad.org

Meta: Chickahominy Area Triad