

New Kent County
Charles City County

VIRGINIA
Triad

Seniors & Law Enforcement Together (SALT)

Reducing Crime Against the Elderly

Chickahominy Area Triad
Scam/Fraud Alert Bulletin #2

Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected

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

Type	Synopsis of Reported Incidents
Fraud: SCAM:	Male suspect was purchasing a money order and handed the clerk \$2,400. After the clerk counted the money, the male suspect recounts it, taking some of the money off and slipping it into his pocket by “slight of hand.” When the clerk takes the money back they did not recount the money and processed the money order for the original amount discussed. Discrepancy was not discovered until the end of the salesclerk’s shift.
Fraud: SCAM:	VENMO: Victim was trying to sell a formal dress on Facebook Marketplace and was contacted by “Christian Stockman” who negotiated a price with the victim. “Christian” requested to pay through Venmo, to which the victim agreed and received an email stating they had a pending payment, however, an upgrade to their Venmo account was required in order to process the pending payment; victim complied and the upgrade cost \$100. “Christian” also had to upgrade his account, and the victim agreed to pay for his upgrade with the understanding “Christian” would repay the victim. Shortly after the upgrade, the victim received a second email stating they now needed to pay an additional \$500 for a “government-approved form fee.” It was at this time the victim realized they had been scammed. Monetary loss of \$200.
Fraud: SCAM:	The victim was contacted regarding a job opportunity at Outrider Company and provided a link to download an application; the victim selected the link and received a text which started a back-and-forth job interview via text. The victim was offered the job and accepted. The victim was then

	<p>asked, via text, to purchase Apple gift cards to pay for required supplies for their new position, and the new employer would send a check to reimburse. The victim received a check but attempted to deposit it only to be informed by their financial institution that the check was fraudulent. The victim quickly realized this had been a scam. Monetary loss of \$2,800.</p>
<p>SCAM: JOB OFFER:</p>	<p>The victim received a call from an individual claiming to be the victim's son. He claimed to have been in an accident and was currently incarcerated. A second person took the phone and identified himself as their son's public defender, "John Stoenburg." "Mr. Stoenburg" proceeded to explain that he would need \$5,000 in cash to bond the victim's son out of jail. Once the victim had the cash, they called "Mr. Stoenburg", who had a pre-scheduled courier waiting to retrieve the money. Once the money had been picked up, the clients did not hear back from "Mr. Stoenburg." The victim reached out to their son only to find he had not been in an accident nor incarcerated. Monetary loss of \$5,000.</p>
<p>Fraud: SCAM:</p>	<p>BORDER PATROL: Victim received a call from "David Brown" identifying himself as being with Border Patrol, and he had intercepted a package addressed to the victim. Contents of the package made it appear as if the victim may be involved in money laundering and trafficking drugs. "Mr. Brown" felt the victim was innocent and wanted to assist the victim rectify this situation. "Mr. Brown" asked the victim to look up the Sheriff's Office's non-emergency number, which the victim, in turn, provided to "Mr. Brown." "Mr. Brown" stated he would call them and provide them with the specifics of the case. The victim then received a call from a gentleman identifying himself as "Officer Hudson" with the Sheriff's Office and he was able to put a 20-hour hold on the warrants for the victim's arrest. In that timeframe, "Officer Hudson" suggested the victim remove all their monies from their accounts and deposit them into Bitcoin, and then provide the QR code on the receipt from the deposit to "Officer Hudson;" victim complied. Later, when a family member of the victim</p>

arrived home, they discussed the incident and attempted to withdraw money from the new account only to find the funds could not be accessed and realized they had been a victim of a scam. Monetary loss of \$13,900.

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 the Northern Virginia Sheriff's Department within the past two weeks. Stay alert, don't become a victim, as you can see it can be costly and please don't think that it couldn't happen to you.

