

New Kent County
Charles City County

VIRGINIA
Triad

Seniors & Law
Enforcement
Together
(SALT)

Reducing
Crime
Against
the
Elderly

SENIORS

LAW ENFORCEMENT

COMMUNITY

Chickahominy Area Triad

Scam/Fraud Alert Bulletin #6

Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected

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

Type	Synopsis of Reported Incidents
Fraud: SCAM:	<u>FACEBOOK MARKETPLACE</u> : The victim was attempting to sell a piano on Facebook Marketplace and was contacted by “Hanne.” The victim and “Hanne” negotiated \$50 for the piano as well as an additional \$20 for the piano chair. “Hanne” informed the victim she had sent payment through Zelle. When the victim checked, the victim discovered an email that appeared to be from Zelle, informing the victim they would need to update their Zelle account, however, the upgrade would cost \$200. The victim only had \$90, and “Hanne” agreed to pay the additional funds if the victim would send her the \$90 dollars; victim sent the additional \$90. The victim then received a 2nd email from “Zelle” stating additional funds were required, at which point the victim realized they had been scammed. Monetary loss of \$90.
Fraud SCAM	<u>ONLINE</u> : Victim met “Kelly Brown” through Facebook Messenger in April 2023, and began an online relationship. “Kelly” began asking for financial assistance with the understanding she would pay the victim back; the victim sent funds via CashApp. “Kelly” finally sent a check for \$15,075 to repay the victim, and the victim deposited the check into their bank account. A few days later, the victim’s bank informed them the check was fraudulent. Monetary loss of \$18,255.
Fraud SCAM	<u>PUPPY</u> : Victim joined a Facebook group for French bulldog puppies, and contacted a breeder, “Charlotte Amelia,” directly. The victim and “Charlotte” agreed to a deposit of \$600 for one of the puppies and the victim transferred funds

	to “Charlotte” via Zelle. Afterward, “Charlotte” instructed the victim to meet her son at a Chinese restaurant in Pennsylvania to pick up a puppy. Victim waited at the restaurant, but no one showed, and the victim is no longer able to get in touch with “Charlotte.” Monetary loss of \$600.
Fraud SCAM	<u>LAW ENFORCEMENT</u> : Victim received a call from an individual identifying himself as a federal investigator, “Miller.” “Miller” explained the victim had pending charges that were being investigated. “Miller” continued to explain that he would be able to assist the victim in transferring their money into another bank account to prevent anyone from taking their funds. The victim agreed and paid “Miller” via Zelle, \$95.96. “Miller” then began asking for additional funds, at which time, the victim realized it was a scam. Monetary loss \$95.96.
Fraud SCAM	<u>NORTON 360</u> : Victim received an email from Norton 360 stating they owed \$350 or the victim’s account would be closed. The victim called the number provided in the email and spoke with a “Norton representative.” The “representative” wanted to give the victim a \$70 refund, but the victim refused. However, the “representative” was able to access the victim’s bank account and deposited \$7,000. The victim pointed out this error, when at this time the “representative” insisted the victim purchase Apple gift cards, iPhones, or MacBook to repay the \$7,000. The victim refused and disconnected the call. The victim then noticed the \$7,000 transfer out of their account. The victim went to their bank and ensured there had been no additional fraudulent activity other than the \$7,000 deposit and withdrawal and proceeded to freeze their account to prevent fraudulent activity. Monetary loss \$0.00
Fraud	The victim paid a business owner for work to be completed on his motorcycle. The business owner has not completed the work and has only given excuses to the victim. The victim asked for his motorcycle to be returned, but the business owner, again, continues to make excuses that prevent him from returning the motorcycle. Monetary loss

	of \$5,191.52.
Fraud	The victim's identity was compromised and discovered two fraudulent accounts had been established. Monetary loss of \$2,777.60.

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.

Thanks to Our Major Contributors



Meta: Chickahominy Area Triad Scam Warriors
www.chickahominytriad.org

Meta: Chickahominy Area Triad