

New Kent County  
Charles City County

VIRGINIA  
**Triad**

SENIORS

Seniors & Law  
Enforcement  
Together  
(SALT)

Reducing  
Crime  
Against  
the  
Elderly

LAW ENFORCEMENT

COMMUNITY

## ***Chickahominy Area Triad***

### **Scam/Fraud Alert Bulletin #4**

***Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected***

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

<b>Type</b>	<b>Synopsis of Reported Incidents</b>
<b>Fraud: SCAM:</b>	<p>The victim purchased car parts through their Facebook car group. After sending the payment, the victim was encouraged by a member of the car group, “Scott Potkah”, to use “Trans Logistics” for shipping. After the victim paid the initial shipping cost, the victim was contacted by a representative of “Trans Logistics” for additional funds to pay for even more fees. It was at this time the victim realized they had been scammed.</p>
<b>Fraud: SCAM:</b>	<p>GEEK SQUAD: Victim was having computer issues and searched the Internet for the Geek Squad phone number. Once the victim located the number, they called and spoke with “Kevin”, the Geek Squad representative. The victim explained his problem and allowed “Kevin” remote access to their computer. While working on the victim’s computer issue, “Kevin” stated he would refund the victim’s Geek Squad membership cost due to the issues the victim was experiencing; however, in order to process the refund, “Kevin” would need the victim’s banking information. The victim provided the information and then proceeded to log in to their account for the refund to be processed. The victim immediately noticed that they had been refunded \$1,499.00 instead of \$149.00, and immediately pointed it out to “Kevin.” “Kevin” explained the only way the victim could return the money was through the purchase of gift cards from Target. The victim was confused, but eventually complied and purchased the gift cards, and provided the information to “Kevin.” The victim then noticed an additional refund of \$4,000. The victim</p>

	<p>became frustrated and argued with “Kevin”, who was now threatening to lock the victim out of their bank account unless the victim provided more gift cards to refund the \$4,000. The victim decided to comply and went to CVS to purchase additional cards, however, the CVS employee explained there was a restriction on how many gift cards could be purchased. The victim proceeded to explain their situation and it was at this time the CVS employee suggested to the victim to contact the Sheriff’s Office; they could very well be a victim of a scam. Monetary loss of \$4,500.</p>
<p><b>Fraud: SCAM:</b></p>	<p>ONLINE: Victim received a direct message on Instagram from who they thought was a childhood friend. The message was an attempt to educate the victim on cryptocurrency and convince the victim to invest in Bitcoin. Victims invested a total of \$5,306 in Bitcoin and watched their investment grow. When the victim decided to withdraw funds, they reached out to their “friend” who instructed the victim they would have to make a payment of \$6,500. The victim initially ignored the response, but the victim was contacted again regarding the large required payment. The victim decided to call their “friend” and it was then they found out the childhood friend had been hacked and the victim had been scammed.</p>
<p><b>Fraud: SCAM:</b></p>	<p>CRYPTOCURRENCY: Victim decided to invest in cryptocurrency and chose CoinEx after extensive research. After the victim’s first investment, the victim decided to invest additional funds since the first investment proved to be so successful. A short time period later, the victim decided to withdraw from their account only to be told they would have to pay \$16,000 upfront to cover taxes. The victim became suspicious and contacted the Stafford County Sheriff’s Office, at which time it was discovered when the victim downloaded the CoinEx app, the victim unintentionally downloaded the fraudulent app, CoinExsc.com. Monetary loss of \$90,000.</p>

**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 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.

