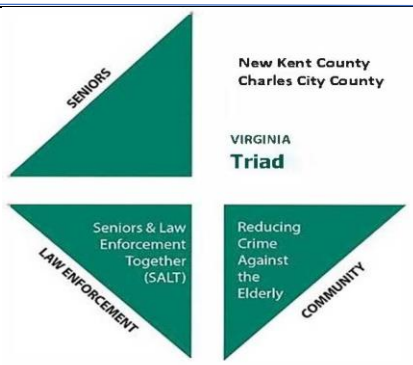

Chickahominy Area Triad

Scam/Fraud Alert Bulletin #24

Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected

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

Type	Synopsis of Reported Incidents
Fraud: SCAM	The victim received a phone call informing her she had to pay $900 in fees, otherwise "they were going to have her arrested." The caller identified himself as Cristan Smith with immigration. The victim also stated that she contacted her lawyer to see if the fees were real, and the lawyer informed her the fees were, in fact, real. The victim then paid the fees, but still doubting the first lawyer, contacted a second (2nd) lawyer, who informed the victim that she had been scammed.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim was contacted by someone posing as a security company inquiring about fraudulent activity on the victim's account. After conversing with the individual, it was discovered that money was fraudulently withdrawn from her bank, and she was now locked out of her account.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim was looking on Facebook Marketplace when he noticed an online business, Clarkson's Poultry Farm, who were selling live chickens. The victim ordered twelve (12) hens. Clarkson's Poultry Farm informed him the cost including shipping would total $120, and the victim agreed, paying with Zelle. The victim was not provided with a date that the chickens would arrive or confirmation once the purchase was tendered. When the victim contacted the company, they stated the chickens would not be shipped because he needed to purchase crates to ship them. The company further stated the additional cost would be $75 per crate, which would cost a total of $150. The number they sent was different than the number the company sent him the previous day to purchase

	the hens, and it was at this point the victim declined to send additional funds and suspected he had been scammed.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim explained that an old friend that he had not seen in a while had Facebook messaged him and told him about a $150,000 grant that he could qualify for. The victim then took the advice of his friend and messaged the individual who was processing the grant on Facebook. The victim then explained he sent this individual his information and received a message back that he qualified for the grant. The victim was then notified that he would need to pay shipping fees and taxes before the money would be sent via FedEx. The victim was then instructed to purchase multiple gift cards and peal of the back and send pictures of the cards to the individual on Facebook. The victim did just that and then after sending the gift cards the individual asked for $5,000 more in gift cards. The victim quickly realized that he was being scammed and contacted law enforcement.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim advised she received a call from Jeremy Brown" who stated that he worked for the County Sheriff's Office. The suspect had advised the victim that she had missed jury duty and needed to pay in Bitcoin so she would not be arrested. "Jeremy Brown" is not an employee with the Office and the Sheriff's Office will never request any form of payment over the phone.

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) 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