

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 #9
Be Aware, Be Smart, Stay Protected
Serving the Counties of New Kent and Charles City, VA.

Type	Synopsis of Reported Incidents
Fraud: SCAM	The victims received a call from “John” with Dominion Energy. “John” explained the victim’s account was overdue and their electricity would be cut off in 30 minutes if payment was not made immediately. “John” went on to say payment would have to be made through Zelle. “John” attempted to assist the victims in creating a Zelle account, but victims continue to struggle, and “John” ended the call. Shortly thereafter, “Trevor Davis” called and identified himself as “John’s” supervisor and would assist the victim further with establishing a PayPal account in order to send payment. Victims succeeded in establishing the account, however, accidentally processed two (2) separate payments of \$323, which “Mr. Davis” said would be credited to their account. After the call ended, victims realized they had been scammed and attempted to cancel transfers, but the funds had already been transferred. Monetary loss of \$646.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim’s friend sent a message via Snapchat requesting financial assistance. The victim agreed to help and sent money through CashApp. The victim was contacted a second time by the same friend asking for additional money, which made the victim suspicious. The victim reached out directly to their friend only to find that the friend’s social media accounts had been compromised and the request had been a scam. Monetary loss of \$130.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim received a text regarding fraudulent activity on their bank account; the victim disregarded it as a scam text. Shortly later, the victim received a call from an individual

	<p>identifying themselves as a “representative” of the victim’s financial institution. The “representative” stated they had detected fraudulent activity and wanted to lock the victim’s account. However, in order to do so, the “representative” required the victim’s one-time PIN that she sent via text to the victim’s phone. The victim felt this was legitimate and provided the PIN. A few hours later, the victim attempted to log onto their account and found they no longer had access to their account. The victim contacted their bank and found they had sustained three (3) fraudulent transfers. Monetary loss of \$12,500.</p>
Fraud: SCAM	<p>The Realtor was contacted through their company website by a suspect claiming ownership of a piece of property. The suspect asked the realtor to sell the property for them. The realtor, having heard about the recent land scams, researched the property, and contacted the owner on record to confirm they were the individuals who had contacted the realty company. It was discovered the suspect who initially contacted the realtor, was not the owner of the property and was attempting to scam the owner as well as the realtor. No monetary loss.</p>
Fraud: SCAM	<p>The victim received a text from “USPS” stating the victim would need to update their home address to receive a package. Victim selected the link, which then required a \$3.00 payment to update information; victim paid. The next day, the victim received a call from a “representative” of their bank explaining there had been fraudulent activity on the victim’s account. The “representative” stated their password would need to be changed due to the recent fraudulent activity. The victim changed their password with the “representative’s” assistance. After the phone call, the victim noticed a pending transfer of \$3,000. The victim contacted their financial institution directly to discover the previous text and phone call had been part of an elaborate</p>

	scam. Due to victim's quick action, there was no monetary loss.
Fraud: SCAM	The victim received a call regarding their online resume. The victim agreed to an interview with suspect "Jessica McFadden." "Jessica" then sent a check for \$4,500 to the victim with instructions to deposit it into the victim's personal bank account and then forward payment to several contractors; victim complied. Shortly afterward, the victim's bank informed the victim the check had been counterfeit. Monetary loss of \$4,775.
Fraud: SCAM	The suspect handed the clerk \$1,000 in twenty-dollar bills to purchase his items. The clerk counted the money and sat it down on the counter. The suspect picked up the stack of bills and pressed against his chest and began to make small talk all in an attempt to distract the clerk. The suspect was able to pocket \$800 from the stack of twenty-dollar bills without the clerk noticing, only handing back to the clerk \$200; the clerk did not recount. At the end of the shift, the clerk's cash register was short \$800.
	The victim received a text message stating their Amazon account had been compromised and had incurred fraudulent charges. The victim called the provided phone number to the Amazon Fraud Department. The victim was advised of several charges, which the victim confirmed were in fact fraudulent. The "Amazon representative" stated he was able to assist the victim in filing a claim and assist them in processing a refund to the victim's account. However, to do so, the victim would need to purchase various gift cards at various businesses to confirm the victim's location; the victim purchased and provided all gift card information to the representative. The victim realized when they did not receive the refund as promised they had fallen victim to a scam. Monetary loss of \$4,200.

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.



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



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