

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 #14**

***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><b><u>Employment:</u></b> He worked for a month receiving, picking up and shipping packages. Don't have a car so I was using uber. When payday he couldn't login to the dashboard. All the phones are busy, and no one is replying to my emails. I have all receipts, emails, tracking numbers &amp; documents of all the packages I have sent out.</p> <p>Dollar Loss: \$1,000</p>
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<p><b><u>Employment:</u></b> I received a job recruitment call. The caller said "hello good morning, gave her name and stated she was the head administrator of (ARKAD S.P.A.). She further related that she was contacting me after reviewing my on-line resume that was posted on CareerBuilder. She briefly discussed the position and asked if I was interested and if so, she would provide additional details about the job position, pay, working hours and more. I replied that I was interested and provided her with my email address and thanked her for the job opportunity. I was then emailed a code which would allow me to connect with someone via Teams. Being suspicious, I didn't follow through. Although I do have a resume on CareerBuilder, I checked it only to discover that my resume had not been accessed, nor was my resume requested by any vendor or company.</p> <p>Dollars Lost: \$0.0</p>
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<p><b><u>Employment:</u></b> I signed up for a job newsletter thinking it was a legitimate site and paid the \$50.00 subscription fee. The job itself doesn't have a lot of online resources. Initially, it was hard to tell it was a fraud, but now looking at it deeper I see that indeed is a total scam. None of the links on their website work or were legitimate, the job board search function doesn't work right. When I tried to contact the business via email over a span of 45 days, I received no response from them and finally disputed the charges with my bank. Each month I would receive an email letting me know my payment processed, but I never received the newsletters as they promised.</p> <p>Dollars Lost: \$50.00</p>

<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<b><u>On-Line Purchase:</u></b> I was on Face Book when I saw an item that I wanted to purchase. I pressed a link button, and it gave me their website. I placed the order for \$29.90 and was charged \$238.00. I did receive the \$29.90 item that I had ordered. However, when I disputed the charge with my bank, they would not refund my overpayment because the money had already been taken out. Dollars Lost: \$207.10
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<b><u>On-Line Purchase:</u></b> Through Instagram, back in October of 2023, I signed up for Hypnozio as it was advertised as a weight loss hypnosis program. The program was for three months at \$33, and it was auto renewed, at sign up they offered a discounted workout encouragement program as well for \$19.99. As soon as I signed up for both programs, I did some online research and found that the reviews were poor and immediately emailed them to cancel and get my refund. I received a response that they could not do that the refund since the audio links were already processed but was told in the email response that the cancellation was processed. In the past three (3) months I was emailed nine (9) audio links on weight loss but only one on workout encouragement. This past week I was charged another \$33, again I emailed them stating that I had canceled and wanted a refund and was told again that it was too late to receive a refund but that it was canceled in the system, and I wouldn't be auto renewed. I do not believe them as I was given this information before. I am attempting to go through my bank and PayPal to see if I can receive a refund but also wanted to let BBB know of this scam. Dollars Lost: \$85.99
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<b><u>Counterfeit Product:</u></b> I purchased an online product that cost \$202.60. The website looks very similar to the real website. The product was shipped from China using CNE and I was provided with conflicting information as to where and how the product was being delivered. But it finally showed at the post office. I sent an email to the email provided by the website asking for a refund cause the product was clearly fake and made of poor quality, in which I made a dispute claim using my bank. The scammer then begins to respond asking to withdraw the dispute and stating that they will provide a full refund if I withdraw the dispute. The scammer also used multiple email chains and I have three (3) separate conversations with the same seller used. I complied and provided proof that the dispute has been withdrawal. On 12/4, they sent an email saying that the refund is not required. Dollars Lost: \$202
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<b><u>Government Agency Imposter:</u></b> When searching to apply for a Global Entry Application, the first thing that pops up is this website with information about the process of applying. I wasn't paying

	<p>enough attention, and it looked legitimate. I filled out their forms providing all my personal details, including passport and driver's license information. I then paid a service fee of \$149.00, plus a \$100.00 fee for the global entry application. It wasn't until after I paid that I realized this was not a government website. Now I am freaking out that I've given my info to who-knows-who. Don't make the same mistake I did. Dollars Lost: \$150.00</p>
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<p><b>Online Purchase:</b> I saw a post on Facebook advertising Keto Bite Dummies. I provided my personal information and ordered one bottle. When I received the shipment six (6) bottles were enclosed. I did not order 6 bottles, I only wanted 1 (one) to try it. Days later I received another (six) 6 bottles, which I did not order! I contacted the company's customer service center and asked what was going on and instructions for returning their merchandise. The customer service person said they have no return policy. So, now I have twelve (12) bottles of Keto Bite Dummies which I am not using. I called the company today and they informed me that they are canceling my subscription. And I informed them that I didn't have a subscription. So, last week my bank called me about the charges, and I informed them that the charges were not authorized by me. I filed a dispute claim and cancelled the credit card used. Dollars Lost: \$0.0</p>
<b>Fraud: SCAM</b>	<p><b>Other:</b> I contacted and scheduled a company through Angi to have my front doorway replaced. I was so excited. My 1st Pro installer went to the wrong address – he never showed up as scheduled. So, I sent two (2) messages to the company, and I left a voice mail. He never called or texted me to find out the correct address. I found out later that he was at my neighbor's house &amp; he left. The job was not done, but the money came out of my bank account. However, it has since been refunded, and the work rescheduled. My second Pro installer was then scheduled, but I had to reschedule him due to my husband having an appointment that day. This job was rescheduled, however 10 minutes before the installer was scheduled to arrive, on the rescheduled date, he cancelled. It was then rescheduled for November 11th. On this occasion, I met the installer but after looking at the job, the job could not be done in one day and his work order did not address the complexity of the job to be done. He said he'd be back Monday, then it was changed to Tuesday. Then it became Wednesday, because that was the day his helper was available. They did come back on Wednesday but did a really shotty job and my front door does not close properly. The work needs to be redone but I'm afraid to trust Angi, so I'll take a loss. Dollars Lost: \$200.00</p>

<p><b>Fraud: SCAM</b></p>	<p><b>Employment:</b> I received an offer on-line to become a Kroger secret shopper. It sounded great to me, so I agreed, and they sent me a check for \$1980. I was instructed to keep \$400 to \$480 depending on how fast the job was done. The provided instructions said to purchase eBay gift cards, scratch the back of each card to reveal codes and send a picture back. The scammers claimed that I could purchase the eBay cards from any store, not just a Kroger. I quickly realized that this was a scam. Dollars Lost: \$0.0</p>
<p><b>Fraud: SCAM</b></p>	<p><b>Phishing:</b> I received a text alleging that a USPS package had arrived at the USPS warehouse but could not be delivered due to incomplete address information. The text asked me to please confirm my address by clicking on the embedded link. I clicked on the link and was taken to the USPS Team site where joyfully greeted them, plus the website looked exactly like the official USPS website and all the links worked, however I was redirected and asked for my credit card information. The scammer related that the credit card information I entered when placing the order was not accepted. However, USPS could correct the problem by verifying the credit card information and that there would be no cost and that the package would be immediately delivered for free. Dollars Lost: \$0.0</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 the Northern Virginia Sheriff's Department or Better Business Bureau (BBB) within the past two weeks. Stay alert, don't become a victim, as you can see it can be costly and don't think that it couldn't happen to you.



Meta: Chickahominy Area Triad Scam Warriors  
[www.chickahominytriad.org](http://www.chickahominytriad.org)



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