

# Beware of Senior scams!



# Introduction

- ▶ Staff Sergeant Eric Calendine
- ▶ Beaufort County Sheriff Office
- ▶ Currently assigned a supervisor for Southern Investigations
- ▶ 20 year experience in Law Enforcement
- ▶ Bachelor of Arts Criminology and Criminal Justice 1999 The University of Maryland
- ▶ Former Defensive End for Maryland Terrapins 1995–1999.
- ▶ Claim to fame: I once delivered a baby on the side of the road.



# Elder Abuse and Exploitation

- ▶ How you, your loved ones, clients, and your neighbors are being preyed upon by local, national, and international criminals.
- ▶ In this lecture, I will discuss the trends in scams used to defraud victims of their money, identity, and financial peace. These scams are becoming big business for criminals. It is estimated that last year alone criminals stole over 37 Billion dollars from victims and financial institutions. The total number of victims is increasing as baby boomers retire and their ability to manage trillions of dollars in personal assets diminishes.
- ▶ (please hold questions to the end of the presentation)

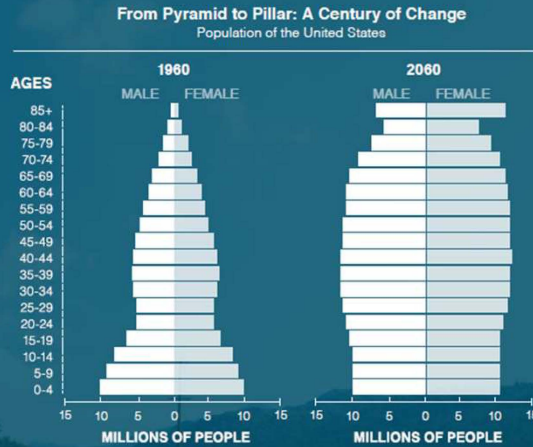


# Elder Abuse Statistics

## Population of Older Adults

Older adults age 65 and older comprise 14.9% of the total population in the USA.

Projections anticipate the percentage of the population age 65 and older to continue to grow in the coming decades.



## Prevalence of Elder Abuse

At least 10% of adults age 65 and older will experience some form of elder abuse in a given year, with some older adults simultaneously experiencing more than one type of abuse.



## The Majority of Older Adults Live in the Community

As over 90% of older adults reside in the community (as opposed to various forms of congregate living situations), most elder abuse is occurring among older adults living in the community.



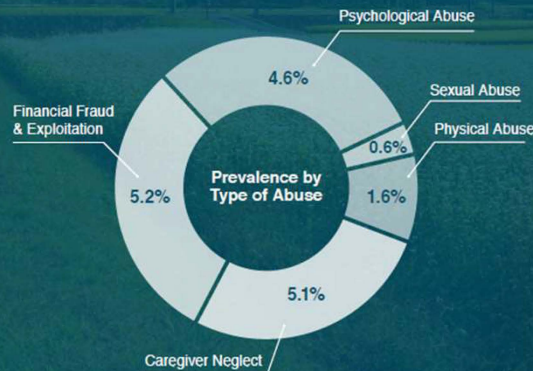
## Rate of Underreported by Type of Elder Abuse

Caregiver Neglect	1:57
Financial Exploitation	1:44
Physical Abuse	1:20
Psychological Abuse	1:12

## Definition and Prevalence of Elder Abuse

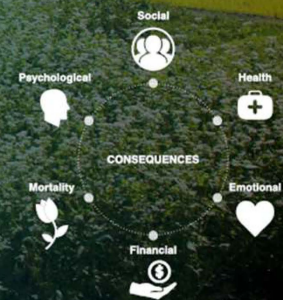
Elder abuse is "An intentional act or failure to act by a caregiver or another person in a relationship involving an expectation of trust that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult" [1]. It is a term under which five types of abuse are reflected [1]:

- Caregiver Neglect
- Financial Fraud & Exploitation
- Psychological Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse



## The Consequences of Elder Abuse

The trauma of elder abuse may result in health issues such as a deterioration in health, hospitalization and increased mortality, clinical issues such as depression and suicide, social issues such as disrupted relationships, and financial loss, all leading to diminished independence and quality of life.



Financial exploitation means the misuse or withholding of an older adult's resources by another.

- ▶ In a given year, 1 in 18 “cognitively intact” older adults is victim to financial scams, fraud or abuse, according to a new study in the American Journal of Public Health.
- ▶ It's easier to try to exploit a senior citizen with cognitive or other impairments in financial issues, who are alone, than it is to rob a bank. So they are the targets.



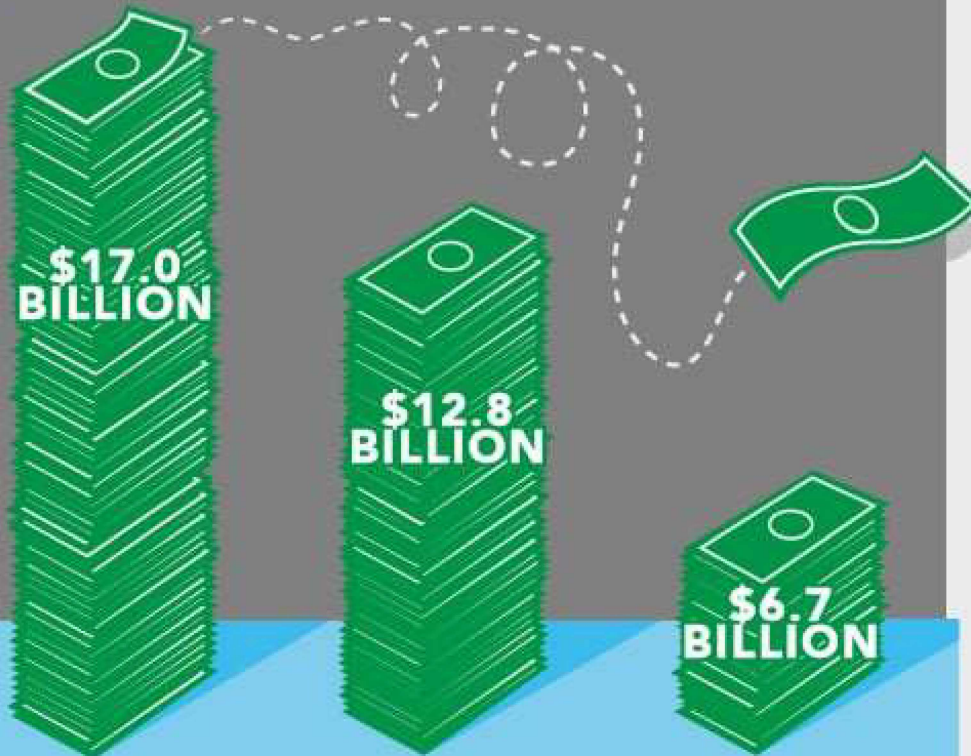
# Elder Exploitation is a 37 Billion dollar industry

- ▶ Some 5 million older Americans are financially exploited every year by scammers
- ▶ In 2015, Dr. Lachs (Weill Cornell Medicine) coined the term “**Age-Associated Financial Vulnerability,**” or AAFV.
- ▶ He defined it as a “pattern of imprudent financial decision-making that begins at a late age and puts older adults at risk for material losses that could decimate their quality of life.” Financial judgment can start to falter before normal cognition does, regardless of whether the person was savvy with money when they were younger. In other words, it can happen even when the person seems normal.



## WHAT IS THE COST?

# \$36.5 BILLION



### EXPLOITATION

When businesses, individuals, or charities use pressure tactics or misleading language to lead seniors into financial mistakes.



### FRAUD

When criminals commit identity theft or con seniors into sending money or sharing personal information.



### TRUST ABUSE

When family, friends, or paid helpers take advantage of a trusting relationship to get money from the senior.





Scams are designed to trick people into giving away their money or personal information.



# Types of scams

Lottery

Government or local official

Charity

Family member in need

Mortgage assistance

Debt relief

Construction

Computer or

Phone issues

Romance

Medical



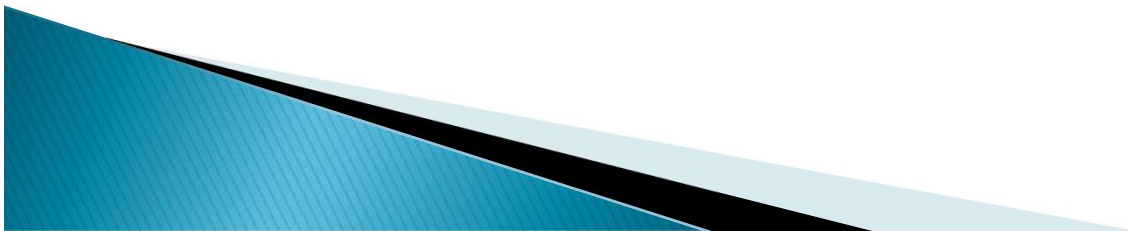
# Investigate before you act!

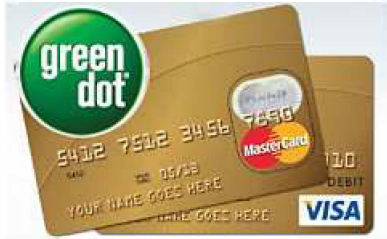
- ▶ **DO NOT GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFORMATION!**
- ▶ Don't pay up front for a promise!
- ▶ Don't let the caller rush or put pressure on you to act quickly.
- ▶ Ask a friend or family member to look at the situation.
- ▶ Google the situation, for example "IRS call for money".



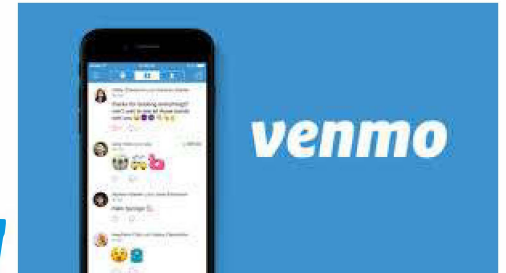
# Tools criminal use to get your money!

- ▶ Criminals will ask you to pay them in the most common forms;
  - Money gram
  - Western Union
  - iTunes card
  - Ebay cards
  - Green Dot card
  - Reloadit card or Moneypak
  - Cash, PayPal, Venmo, or Zelle





Green Dot



Government offices and honest companies wont require you to use these types of payment methods!



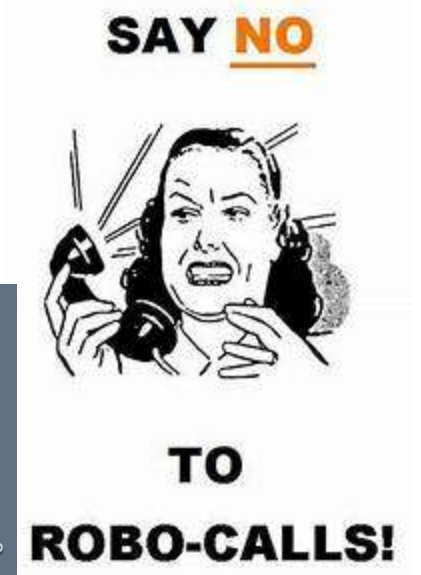
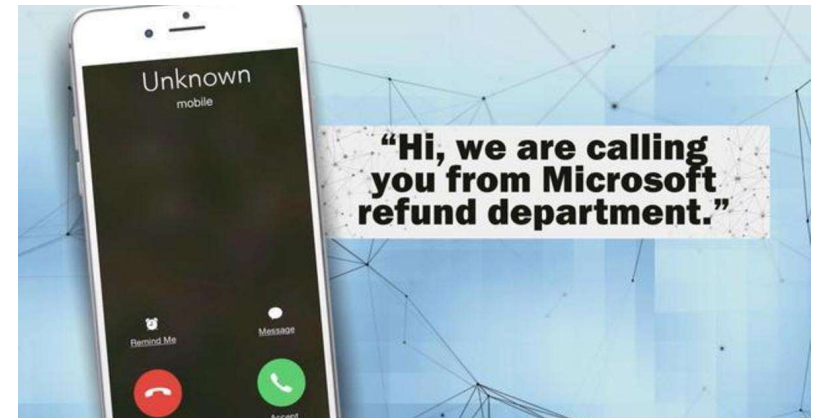
# Question the caller

- ▶ Most criminal callers will answer basic questions but will become irritated when you do not follow their instructions.
- ▶ Anyone who will not let you think about the offer or let you research the situation has something to hide. Be careful!!!!



# ROBO Calls

- ▶ **Hang up!!!!**
- ▶ Pressing numbers to be put on the no call list allows the ROBO call system to see that you have answered the call.
- ▶ This will potentially lead to additional automated or even live calls.



# What to do?



- In today's world, criminals use technology to deceive your caller ID. Don't trust the number listed as the number calling.
- Ask questions.
- Block ROBO call and scam call numbers.
- If you don't recognize the phone number let it go to voice mail. You can always call the person back if it is a legitimate call.

◦ **FTC 877-382-4357**





# Account takeovers

- ▶ Banks, Credit unions, HELOC, Mortgages, Auto loans, Medical loans, Pensions, Money Markets, 401K, Retirement accounts, etc.



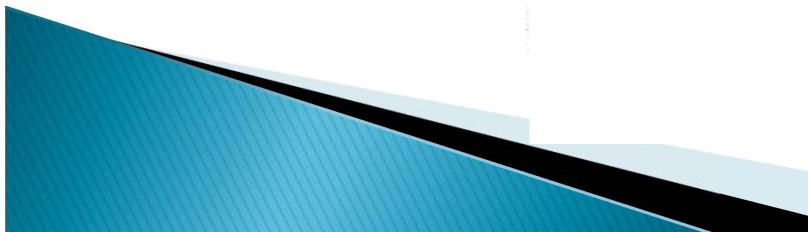
**Bank of America**



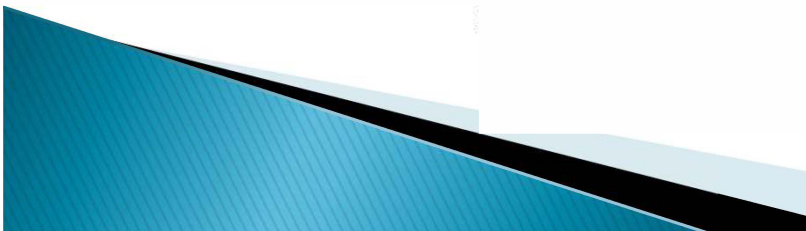
**Bank**



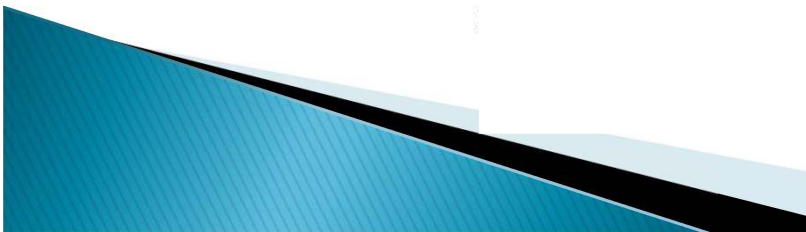
# Impersonator in NC victim lives in FL.



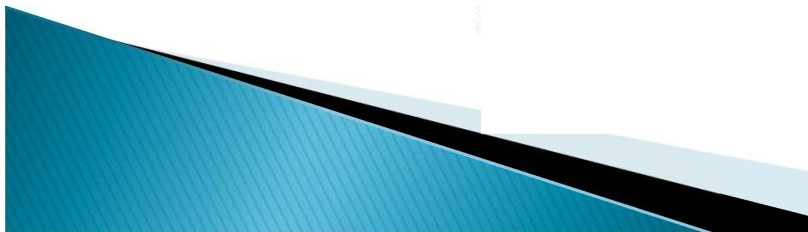
Suspect deposits check in victim's account, then requests cashier check in lower amount. Then suspect accessed victims HELOC and withdrew \$26,000.



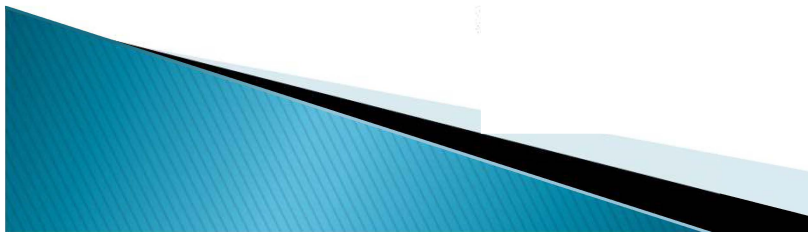
**Suspect in Georgia impersonated  
victim in Florida. Significant  
losses.**



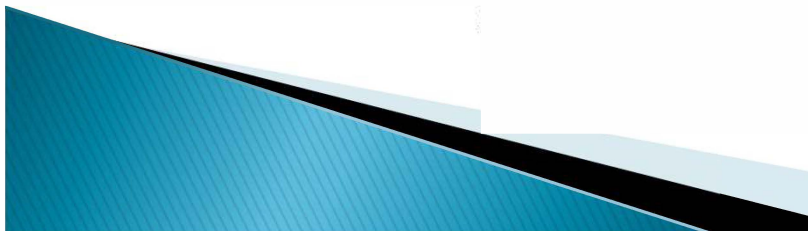
# Customer impersonation \$4,000



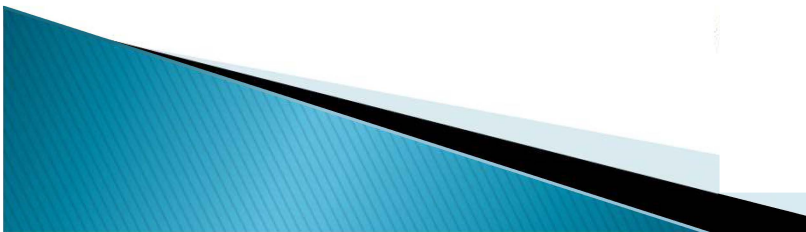
**Multiple withdrawals at various branches.**



2018–2019 suspects have been impersonating clients throughout the southeast. Over \$765,000 stolen.

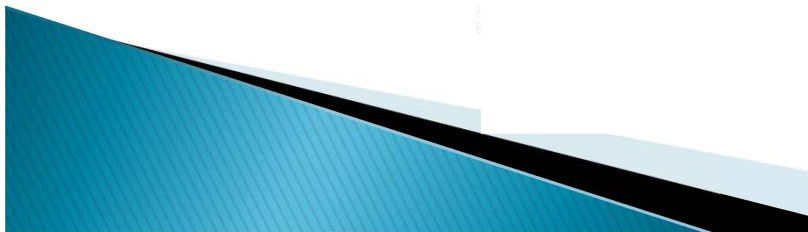


Posed as victim and cashed checks  
against account.





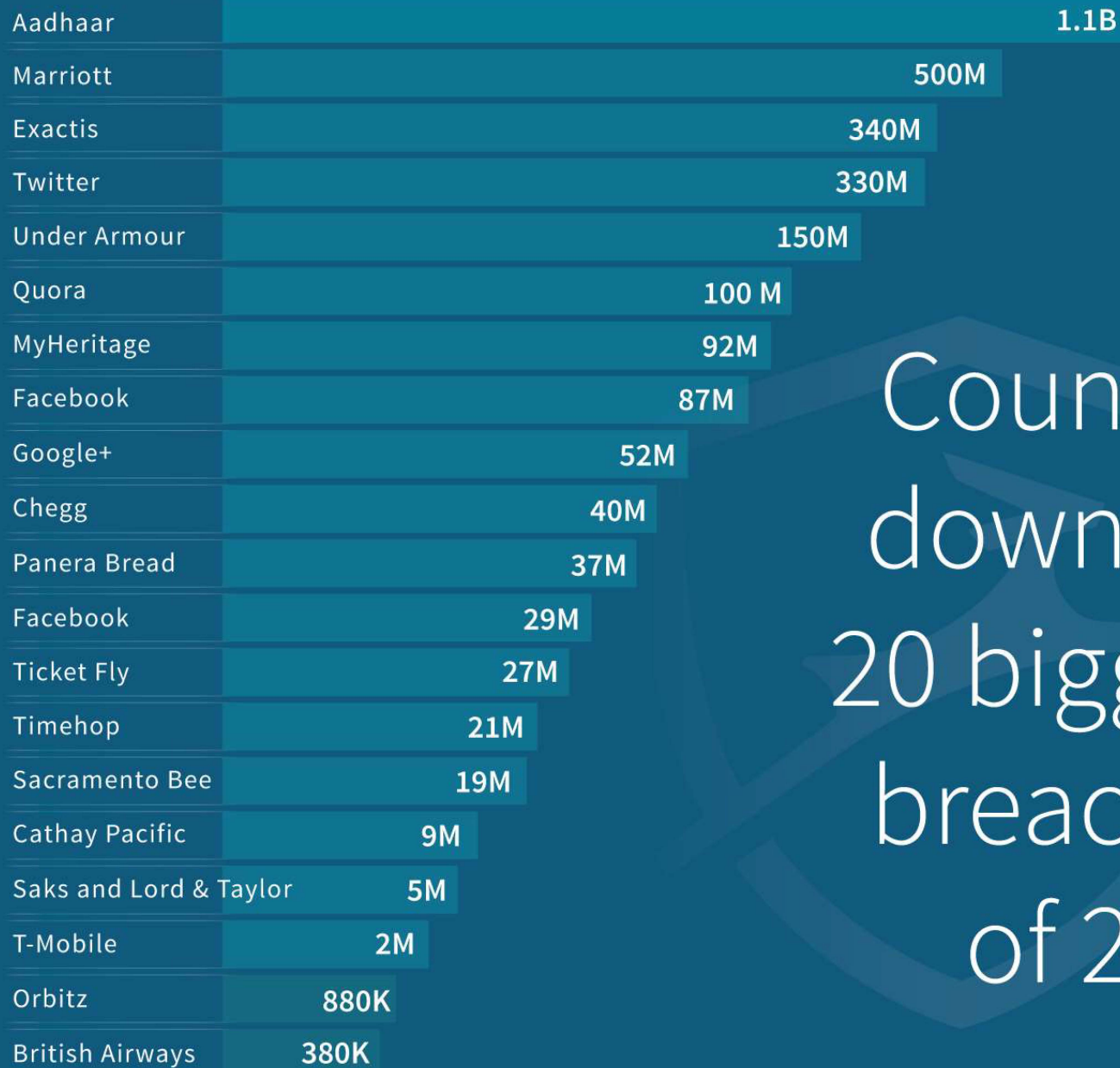
Cashing checks in NY, CT, and Florida. Victim lives in Florida.



# How Does Digital Identity Theft Happen?

## Data Breaches in 2018

Company	Breached	Content
Aadhar	1.1 Billion	Names, ID number, bank accounts, etc.
Marriott Starwood Hotels	500 Million	Phone, email, passport #, CC #
Exactis	340 Million	Phone, address, personal interests, character
State of SC Income Tax Records (2012 – everyone since 1998)		
Quora	100 Million	Names, email addresses, passwords, linked info
MyHeritage	92 Million	Email addresses, passwords



# Counting down the 20 biggest breaches of 2018

# Preventing Identity Theft –Digital Actions

- ▶ Remember that every online service you have has a sign in requirement
  - Username which is your email address
  - Password which you select yourself
- ▶ Since you can be pretty sure that one of your accounts has been included in a major breach, **You should not use the same password on multiple accounts!**
- ▶ You **MUST** use an organized way to remember passwords – manual or automated or system like Last Pass
  - [Password booklet from the computer club available at the Volunteer Table](#)
- ▶ Enable Two Step Authorization on important accounts
- ▶ Consider Purchasing Identity Theft Insurance



# How Do I Know If It Has Happened To Me?

- ▶ Balance Your Bank Account
- ▶ Verify Your Credit Card Purchases
- ▶ Review Your Credit Report Quarterly
  - Loans or accounts you don't know about
  - Drop in credit score for unknown reason
- ▶ Take Immediate Action IF
  - Your mail is held or forwarded
  - You receive a statement or bill from an organization you don't do business with
  - Other indicators of financial activity you didn't initiate



# What Do I Do If It Happens To Me



- [www.identityTheft.gov](http://www.identityTheft.gov)
  - Social Security Administration automatically notified.
  - [WWW.IC3.gov](http://WWW.IC3.gov)  
FBI internet computer crime center
- File a Police Report
- Contact Your ID Protector
- Develop a Recovery Plan



# Federal Bureau of Investigation Internet Crime Complaint Center(IC3)



[Home](#) [File a Complaint](#) [Press Room](#) [News](#) [About IC3](#)

## Filing a Complaint with the IC3

The IC3 accepts online Internet crime complaints from either the actual victim or from a third party to the complainant. We can best process your complaint if we receive accurate and complete information from you. Therefore, we request you provide the following information when filing a complaint:

- Victim's name, address, telephone, and email
- Financial transaction information (e.g., account information, transaction date and amount, who received the money)
- Subject's name, address, telephone, email, website, and IP address
- Specific details on how you were victimized
- Email header(s)
- Any other relevant information you believe is necessary to support your complaint

[File a Complaint](#)

## Welcome to the IC3

## Site Navigation

[Alerts](#)  
[FAQs](#)  
[Disclaimer](#)  
[Privacy](#)  
[Internet](#)  
[Internet](#)



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

# IdentityTheft.gov

[Log In](#)

[En Español](#)

**EQUIFAX SETTLEMENT** - only 79 days left to file a claim.

## Report identity theft and get a recovery plan

[Get Started](#) →

[or browse recovery steps](#)

IdentityTheft.gov can help you report and recover from identity theft.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



#### Tell us what happened.

We'll ask some questions about your situation. Tell us as much as you can.



#### Get a recovery plan.

We'll use that info to create a personal recovery plan.



#### Put your plan into action.

If you create an account, we'll walk you through each recovery step, update your

# Cases in the Low Country of Elder Exploitation

- ▶ Sun City Man with high medical bills  
Online Grant scam to cover bills. 70K
- Bluffton Couple lottery scam  
received checks and sent money to  
Jamaica over 20K
- Rose Hill Man thought he won Lottery sent  
money via mail for taxes over 100K.
- Bluffton Man over 100k in sent in scam
- Westbury Park  
Female victim of lottery scam, sent money  
and even obtained a reverse mortgage. Lost  
home





## ▶ Hilton Head Island

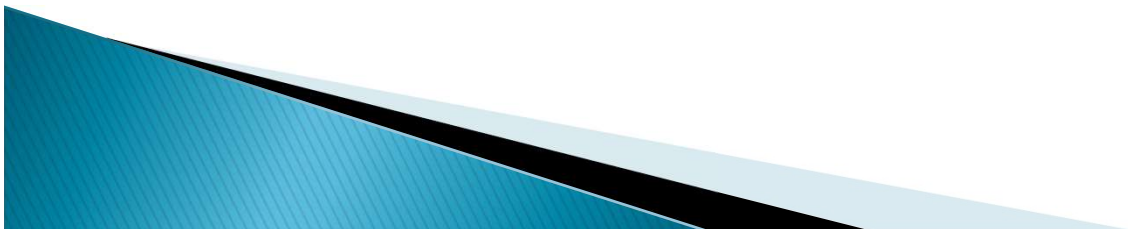
- Dementia Patient with Stage 6 Alzheimer's new BF trying to get married. Went to Dr and Probate court.

Cypress marsh assisted living

92 Yr old male scam to lottery attempted to mail 30K. Bold new scheme Pizza Delivery

Spa at Port Royal

Mule sent checks throughout the world and wire transfers.



# Green Dot Scam

- ▶ Green dot scam: IRS or Sherriff warrant for arrest

2015 thousand of dollars scammed out of the low country:

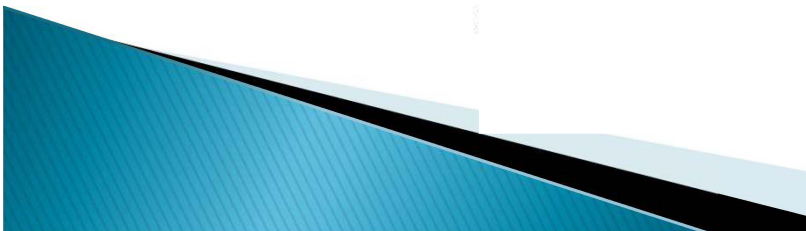
Follow the money and calls. Georgia Prisons. Gangs and guard involved. Arrests made



▪

**URGENT Green Dot card scam  
run from behind bars – Augusta  
to Aiken and ripping off**

**Oregonians : Feds allege Augusta  
prison inmate and his family ran a  
debit card like scam involved  
Green Dot cards**



# Construction Scams



**MOST COMMON GENERAL  
CONTRACTOR SCAMS**

# Contractor scams

- ▶ Check references
- ▶ Never pay total cost up front
- ▶ Check with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (SCDLLR)
- ▶ Make sure they obtain permits
- ▶ Use the internet to search the name of the company or owner
- ▶ <https://llr.sc.gov/>



# Romance Scam

- ▶ Sun City
- ▶ For over 2 years lady was being scammed by “boyfriend”. Once the first scammer was identified as a fraudster, a “lawyer” calls the victim advising he knows the real “boyfriend” and he would love to meet her. Scam continues. Over 100K wire transferred. Reverse Mortgage obtained. Thought she was protected.



# Computer Scams

**Internet Explorer Critical ERROR**

There was a dangerous try to get an access to your personal logins & bank information. Luckily, your Firewall managed to block this suspicious connection. We recommend you to freeze your accounts until some measures will be taken. There is a great threat of leaking of your personal data. So, you need to respond swiftly! Trojan Virus may have already hurt your hard disk and its data. That is why we are checking and verifying your current system security. Do not waste your time and consult one of our service centers or call us.

Contact Number: 0800 098 8706 (TOLL-FREE)

Your urgent response is needed. To deal with this problem, contact our network administration.

**Microsoft Edge Critical ERROR**

There was a dangerous try to get an access to your personal logins & bank information. Luckily, your Firewall managed to block this suspicious connection. We recommend you to freeze your accounts until some measures will be taken. There is a great threat of leaking of your personal data. So, you need to respond swiftly! Trojan Virus may have already hurt your hard disk and its data. That is why we are checking and verifying your current system security. Do not waste your time and consult one of our service centers or call us.

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**Google Chrome Critical ERROR**

There was a dangerous try to get an access to your personal logins & bank information. Luckily, your Firewall managed to block this suspicious connection. We recommend you to freeze your accounts until some measures will be taken. There is a great threat of leaking of your personal data. So, you need to respond swiftly! Trojan Virus may have already hurt your hard disk and its data. That is why we are checking and verifying your current system security. Do not waste your time and consult one of our service centers or call us.

Contact Number: +1 (888) 563-5234 (TOLL-FREE)

Your urgent response is needed. To deal with this problem, contact our network administration.

**Mozilla Firefox Critical ERROR**

There was a dangerous try to get an access to your personal logins & bank information. Luckily, your Firewall managed to block this suspicious connection. We recommend you to freeze your accounts until some measures will be taken. There is a great threat of leaking of your personal data. So, you need to respond swiftly!

Authentication Required

http://0b99404.net is requesting your username and password. The site says: "FIREFOX\_CRITICAL\_ERROR\_DwX89776066\_CALL\_HELP\_DESK +1 (800) 308-2826 (Toll-Free)"

User Name:

Password:

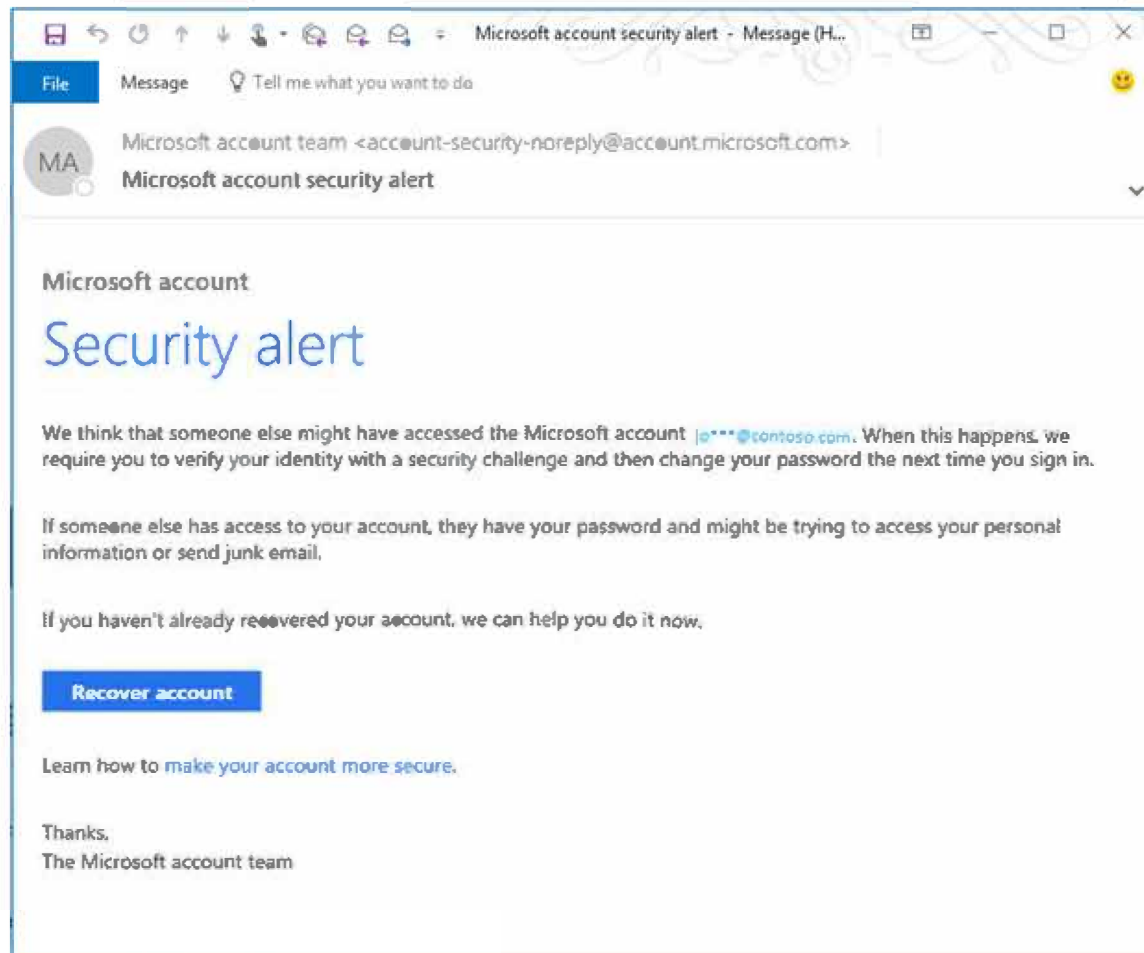
OK Cancel

Call Help Desk  
0800 098 8706

Call Help Desk  
+1 (800) 308-2826

**REMOVE**

# Fake emails that appear legitimate





! SECURITY WARNING Macros have been disabled.

Enable Content



You have received a protected document  
which contains personal information.



To enter your password please Enable Macros

End of document ■

# Norton 360 LifeLock Scam Infects Inboxes With Malware

NATASHA DEENEY MARCH 6, 2020 CYBER SECURITY SCAMS



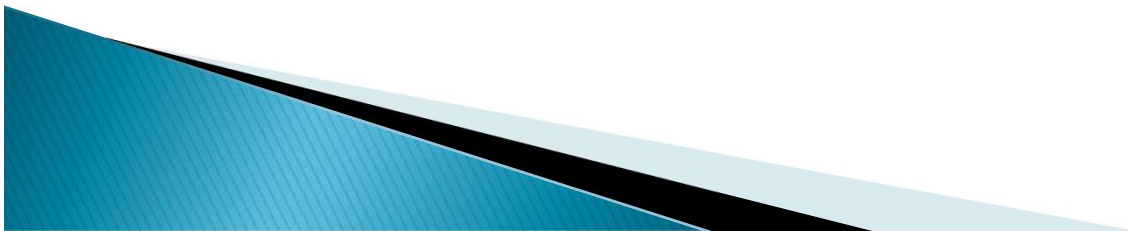
Cybercriminals have launched a clever Norton 360 LifeLock scam, which is disguised as a fake document, in order to trick victims into installing a remote access trojan (RAT).

RATs have the potential to cause significant damage. Their ability to remotely control PCs and capture screens, keystrokes, audio, and video makes them far more dangerous than typical viruses and worms.

The scam begins with a phishing email, which appears to be from the anti-virus and software security

# Defending Yourself

- ▶ Defending yourself starts with acknowledging you or a loved one are a target. Be aware of the many different forms elder financial abuse can take including phone and email scams and bad actors within your social media circle. That can help you deflect attempts and spot issues before they have a substantial financial impact.



- ▶ Beaufort County Sheriff's Office



- ▶ Staff Sergeant Eric Calendine

- ▶ [ecalendine@bcgov.net](mailto:ecalendine@bcgov.net)

- ▶ 843-255-3427

