

두 July in Review

In July, our office saw a jump in the amount of money lost to sweetheart scams - in seven scams, consumers lost \$673,450. These scammers prey on people looking for love, often target seniors, and are more active when people are vulnerable, as many of us are right now because of the coronavirus pandemic. Be careful about who you speak to online and always verify people's identity. If an online friend or love interest is asking you to send money, it's probably a scam.

We continue to receive a high volume of landlord-tenant, credit, and utility complaints due to pandemic-related financial struggles. Our office is also seeing more complaints coming from the more populated areas of the state - Charlotte, Raleigh, and Durham residents filed the most complaints this month.

162 \$826,050

Elder Fraud Complaints



Tech support scams

You might receive a call from a tech company representative claiming they've found a virus on your device or see a pop-up message on your computer or tablet. Don't give these scammers remote access to your device or your personal information. <u>Find out more here.</u>

Coronavirus and Disaster Scams

Scammers have continued to use the pandemic and the recent tropical storm to try to price gouge and scam people out of their hard-earned money. Here's what you should be on the lookout for:

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Robocall Reports

ncdoj.gov/norobo or by phone at

1-844-8-NO-ROBO.

If you receive robocalls, report them to our Robocall Report Task Force online at

2020 Total Count: 5,059

- Scams targeting electric and natural gas customers
- Unsolicited shipments and packages from overseas
- Price gouging while NC's state of emergency is in effect



If you or a loved one has been the victim of a scam, report it to our office: **ncdoj.gov/complaint** or **1-877-5-NO-SCAM**