



SCAMMER SCORECARD

October 2020

October in Review

In 2020, North Carolinians have filed more than 6,500 reports with the FTC about imposter scams. Scammers will often pretend to be loved ones asking for money because their life is in danger or government officials insisting you've missed paying a fee or fine and will be arrested. Con artists try to prey on your emotions. Be sure to check out any story with your loved ones or with local law enforcement. And remember that real law enforcement will never call to threaten you with arrest or demand money. Report scams to our office at ncdoj.gov/complaint or 1-877-5-NO-SCAM.

One North Carolinian lost \$32,000 in a sweetheart scam in October. Be careful of scammers who prey on individuals who may be lonely, especially if they are older, by pretending to fall in love with them. Once a scammer wins a person's trust, they will ask for money to solve a financial difficulty. Keep your guard up when meeting new individuals, especially online, and think twice before you give anyone money.



166

Elder Fraud Complaints

\$264,380

Lost



809

2020 Total Count: 7,595

Robocall Reports

Robocall scammers leverage fear and threats to try to get your money and personal information. Don't fall for it - report robocalls to our office at ncdoj.gov/norobo or at 1-844-8-NO-ROBO.



Be on the lookout for...

Computer Virus Protection Scams

Scammers are offering phony renewal subscriptions to computer services and virus protection software via email. While the sender changes regularly, our office is working to shut down these scams. Don't respond to or share financial or credit card information with an unsolicited contact.

Don't fall for debt collection scams

Debt collection scammers try to convince customers that they owe unpaid debts or try to collect on non-existent debt. Remember that debt collectors cannot:

- Use profanity or threaten you with violence.
- Tell you that you will be arrested if you don't pay.
- Pretend to be attorneys or government representatives.
- Tell your employer or others about your debts.
- Pretend that they are contacting you for other reasons.
- Contact you before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m. unless you agree.
- Garnish your wages.

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