Date June 28, 2024

Attorney General Moody's Week in Review - June 28, 2024



This week, our Office of Statewide Prosecution <u>announced the arrest of six</u> <u>fraudsters</u> for stealing nearly \$250,000 from Florida seniors through grandparent scams.

The defendants contacted seniors posing as lawyers or legal representatives of one of the victim's grandchildren. The fraudsters told the targets that the grandchildren needed bail money after being arrested for hitting a pregnant woman with a vehicle, then arranged for the victim to send payment.

These fraudsters knew that most grandparents would do anything to help a grandchild in need, and through a convincing imposter scheme they used fear and family to extort Florida seniors—stealing nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Working with our great law enforcement partners in South Florida, we were able to shut down this far-reaching grandparent scheme and now the six fraudsters will have to answer for their crimes. All six defendants face multiple first-degree felonies, including organized scheme to defraud, grand theft, criminal use of personal identification and more.

Fraudsters are becoming more sophisticated and it's important our citizens know how to protect themselves.

I encourage Floridians to visit <u>MyFloridaLegal.com/ScamsAtAGlance</u> to view our free Scams at a Glance resources about common and emerging scams.

From imposter scams and tech support scams to various utility schemes, these downloadable brochures provide tips to avoid falling victim to fraud and where to report it.

By staying informed and well-equipped against suspicious activity, you can avoid scams, hold onto your hard-earned money and help us build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

they

In The News

6 arrested in Florida 'grandparent scam' ring that stole \$250K from seniors, NBC 6 South Florida

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6 thieves arrested after stealing nearly \$250K from seniors via 'grandparent scams' in Florida: AG, New York Post

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Six accused of stealing \$250K from Florida seniors in grandparent scam, CBS 12 News

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6 arrested in Florida after allegedly stealing nearly \$250K from seniors during 'grandparent scams', FOX Business

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6 charged in 'grandparent scam,' more than \$250K stolen from victims: Investigators, FOX 13 Tampa Bay

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Pool company owner sentenced for stealing \$1.2M, leaving Floridians with holes in backyards, News Channel 8 Tampa

Amore' Pools owner Chrystal Washburn ordered to prison in contracting scam, TC Palm

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Florida State Prosecutors Secure 30-Year Prison Sentence For Pool Fraudsters, Florida Daily

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Florida AG Ashley Moody urges U.S. Senate to pass ICC Act, The Capitolist

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Attorney General urges Senate passage of Illegitimate Court Counteraction Act, Legal Newsline

Protecting Floridians

Attorney General Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution Secures Second 30-Year Prison Sentence in Amore Pools Case



Attorney General Ashley Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution secured a strong prison sentence against a woman operating a million-dollar pool contracting scheme.

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VIDEO: AG Moody Urges Floridians to Send in Award Nominations for 2024 Human Trafficking Summit as Deadline Rapidly Approaches



Friday, June 28, is the final day to submit nominations. Awards will be presented at the summit to individuals who made a difference in the past year to fight human trafficking in the state of Florida.

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Attorney General Moody Urges Senate to Pass the Illegitimate Court Counteraction Act



The legislation, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives on a bipartisan basis, deters the International Criminal Court from further efforts to assert unlawful authority.

Attorney General Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution Charge Nine Individuals in Fentanyl Trafficking Ring



The Polk County Sheriff's Office and Florida Department of Law Enforcement arrested 64 individuals involved in the trafficking organization and Attorney General Moody's Statewide Prosecutors are charging nine of the defendants with felony counts of Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations, conspiracy to commit RICO and fentanyl trafficking among other charges.