Feb 21, 2020 Contact Kylie Mason Phone 850-245-0150



Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

VIDEO CONSUMER ALERT: Deadline Extended for Victims of Tech Support Scams



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody today issued a Consumer Alert announcing a deadline extension for victims of tech support scams to file claims. The filing extension follows action taken by the Florida Attorney General's Office that shut down several companies operating tech support scams. As a result of that action, a multimillion-dollar claims fund is in place with more than \$7 million available for eligible victims nationwide.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "My Consumer Protection Team is working hard every day to stop scams and recover lost money for Floridians. Through these efforts, millions of dollars are available for victims of tech support scams. In order to receive restitution, Floridians must take action and file a claim. I want to encourage anyone who believes they are a victim of a tech support scam to please file a claim now."

The claims fund is the result of action taken by the Attorney General's Office to shut down several companies operating tech support scams that used Banc of America Merchant Services for payment processing. Through an agreement with Banc of America, \$7.2 million is now available for eligible victims who make timely claims.

The Attorney General's widespread investigation included the following companies: Complete Fix, Compusafe, JSA Sales, GoReadyCalls Marketing, My Direct Customer Care, My Direct Tech, PC Tech Pros, Project Net 123, Protectnet Solutions, Safenet Solutions, Secure IT Digital Solutions, Telcom Experts, US Software Experts, US Software Pros, Webguard 123 and Wizard

Tech Solutions.

For more information about the claims process, visit <u>FloridaAGReimbursement.com</u>.

Eligible victims are encouraged to submit claims as soon as possible. The deadline to file a claim and any supporting documentation is July 15. As part the deadline extension, thousands of additional notices will be sent to eligible victims.

For tips on how to avoid tech support scams, click here.

To report a suspected scam, file a complaint by calling the Attorney General's Office at 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visit <u>MyFloridaLegal.com</u>.

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The Florida Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division issues Consumer Alerts to inform Floridians of emerging scams, new methods used to commit fraud, increased reports of common scams, or any other deceptive practice. Consumer Alerts are designed to notify Floridians about scams and available refunds in an effort to prevent financial losses or other harm caused by deceptive practices. Anyone encountering a scam should report the incident to the Florida Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visiting MyFloridaLegal.com. To view recent Consumer Alerts and for other information about avoiding scams, visit <u>MyFloridaLegal.com/ConsumerAlert</u>.