

Date February 20, 2020

## Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Feb. 21, 2020



The 2020 Census is underway, and this week, we issued a Consumer Alert to warn Floridians that scammers may try to exploit this mandatory count to steal personal information.

The U.S. Census serves a critical role in the function of our representative government, and participation is mandatory. But don't let this compulsory count lessen your resolve to protect personal information or your safety.

To avoid Census scams—remember that the Census Bureau does not send unsolicited emails requesting personal information. The Bureau will never ask for your Social Security number, bank account information or credit card accounts. They also will never request any monetary payments, donations or gift cards.

If a canvasser shows up at your door, check their photo ID badge and make sure it has a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark plus expiration date. If you are still suspicious, call the Bureau at 1(800) 923-8282 to confirm the visit and the canvasser's badge number.

The Bureau will begin sending out participation invitations in mid-March, and the best way to avoid a census scam is to respond quickly—that way you are less susceptible to scammers claiming you are delinquent.

If you do encounter a scam, please report it to the Census Bureau, and remember, by remaining vigilant and taking steps to guard against scams, you can help us build a Stronger, Safer Florida.



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