



NEWS FROM SCDCA

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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Over 1,600 Scams Reported to SCDCA in 2016

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is releasing its new scam report, highlighting the top reported scams in South Carolina during 2016.

Throughout 2016, SCDCA’s Identity Theft Unit fielded roughly 2,000 calls, **1,644** of which were scam reports. Over half of the reported scams were imposter scams (59%), while the next two highest categories were sweepstakes (10%) and debt collection (9%). In total, consumers reported actual losses of over **\$650,000** from scams, and the potential loss of more than **\$350,000** by those who did not fall victim to the scams they reported.

Scam reporting is an important step in helping SCDCA empower consumers to recognize and avoid scams. To report a scam, obtain a copy of “Ditch the Pitch,” or view the scam report in its entirety, call 844-835-5322 or visit www.consumer.sc.gov, then click Report a Scam.

About SCDCA

The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. To file a complaint or get information on consumer issues, visit www.consumer.sc.gov or call toll-free, 1-800-922-1594.

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