



NEWS FROM SCDCA

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Carri Grube Lybarker, Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2017 | Release #17-009

Contact: Juliana Harris, (803) 734-4296

New Report: SCDCA Received Record Number of Breach Notices in 2016

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is releasing its most recent Security Breach Report, outlining data from breaches that occurred from January 2012-December 2016. During this time, SCDCA received 185 security breach notices affecting 7,534,618 South Carolina consumers.

While the full report contains detailed information about the types of reported breaches and number of consumers affected, a few notable highlights include:

- Forty-five breaches were reported in 2016, more than any other year.
- Reports of retail and food service industry breaches more than doubled from 2015 to 2016, affecting 67,149 residents. While only nine breaches in the healthcare sector affected 202,745 residents in 2016.
- The healthcare sector reported the most individual people affected by breaches in years 2014, 2015 and 2016.

“South Carolina law requires that organizations notify SCDCA when more than 1,000 residents are affected by a breach,” said Marti Phillips, Director of SCDCA’s Identity Theft Unit. “In 2016, many breaches affecting less than 1,000 South Carolina residents were reported, providing a more accurate picture of the scope of these breaches and the accompanying risks affecting our residents.”

Consumers who believe they are the victim of a security breach, scam or identity theft are encouraged to seek tailored guidance from SCDCA’s Identity Theft Unit. Call 844-TELL DCA (835-5322) or fill out an ID Theft Intake form by clicking on Report Identity Theft at www.consumer.sc.gov. To view the report in its entirety, click News Releases and Publications, then click Agency Reports.

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.

###