Crooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine sophisticated technology with age-old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. They add new twists to old schemes and pressure people to make important decisions on the spot. One thing that never changes: they follow Headlines—and the money.

The charts below reflect scams reported to SCDCA from 03/01/22 to 03/31/22

### Top Reported Scams in South Carolina

#### 46 REPORTS

**TOP THREE CATEGORIES**

1. Lottery/Prizes/Sweepstakes
2. Purchase
3. Crime/Warrant

#### Lottery/Prizes/Sweepstakes

Consumer are contacted, telling them that they have won a lottery, sweepstakes, or other prize, but needs to first pay a fee (for taxes, custom fees, etc.) to collect their winnings.

#### Purchase

Consumer directed to or approached by imposter business to trick consumer into paying for fake consumer goods. Most online purchase scams occur when a payment is made online to purchase something, and nothing is delivered.

#### Dating

Friend or relative with an emergency need for money, “grandparent scam”; Romantic Interest

### POTENTIAL LOSSES

$45,075.32

This is the total amount of money reported to SCDCA by consumers who did NOT fall for a scam

### ACTUAL LOSSES

$57,003.00

This is the total amount of money reported to SCDCA by consumers who DID fall for a scam

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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