

NEWS FROM SCDC

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

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SCDCA Media Contact: Public Information Division
1.800.922.1594 (toll free in SC)
803.734.4190 or 803.734.4296
Email: scdca@dca.state.sc.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“SCAMJAM” TO INFORM SENIORS ABOUT DECEPTIVE PRACTICES

Columbia, SC... ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs in a collaborative effort with South Carolina AARP, the Direct Selling Education Foundation of Washington (DSEF), South Carolina IRS and the South Carolina Lieutenant Governor’s Office will sponsor “**ScamJam**”: a forum designed to educate caregivers and providers on preventing fraud specifically targeted at older adults. **The program will be held on Tuesday, February 27, beginning at 10 a.m. at the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs located at 3600 Forest Drive in Columbia.**

More than half of all fraud that occurs in our society is directed towards older adults. In addition, studies show that when senior citizens are victims of fraud, the financial loss is double the average loss incurred by other victims. Most seniors do not realize that taking very simple steps can often prevent the hassle that these scams bring.

Guest speakers will provide information to senior healthcare providers on mortgage scams, tax scams, pyramid schemes, identity theft, and Medicaid fraud. Scheduled speakers are Kevin McDonald, US Attorney’s Office; Thomas Sheaffer, IRS; Misty Fallik, DSEF; Gail Hillebrand, Consumers Union; Clarissa Hampton-Cain, SC Lieutenant Governor’s Office on Aging. Information packets with additional resources will be provided to each participant. Attendance at this conference is by invitation only.

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers. Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.sconsumer.gov.

For more information on “**ScamJam,**” contact the Public Information Division at 803.734.4190, toll free in SC at 1.800.922.1594, or online at www.sconsumer.gov.

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