

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA RETURNS TO GAFFNEY ON NOVEMBER 17, 2008

Columbia, SC... ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Gaffney community on Monday, November 17, 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. Regional SCDCA outreach coordinator Patty Guthrie will pay a visit to the Cherokee County Public Library located at 300 East Rutledge Avenue in Gaffney, SC 29340. Consumers may come with questions or complaints regarding a business between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to bring documentation with them.

Ms. Guthrie will have additional materials available on telephone scams. The Department has received a large number of phone calls reporting various types of scams. Savvy consumers have identified the calls as scams by the following red flags: callers asking for sensitive information, insisting on a limited time offer, and using other high-pressure tactics. Unfortunately, many telephone scams have become quite sophisticated and undecipherable from legitimate phone calls. "While we can't tell the consumer exactly what a telephone scammer will or won't say, we can share with them a lot of the warning signs to prevent personal information or finances from ending up in the wrong hands," said Guthrie.

The Department will continue to visit the Gaffney community on a regular basis. Locations will be announced monthly. The Department services the entire state via telephone and online help.

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.

Specific questions and concerns from the Gaffney community may be addressed to Patty Guthrie. Appointments are available upon request. Ms. Guthrie may be reached at 864.490.3267.

This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with Cherokee County Administrator Ben Clary and Cherokee County Librarian Cindy Harry.

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