

# **CONSUMER FRAUD BULLETIN**

October 2016

#### Top Stories in this Bulletin:







New App Helps the FBI Catch Bank Robbers



Beware Government Impersonators



Internet Browsing Safety
Think Before You Click

### October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month



The Colorado Attorney General's Office is a proud Champion of National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM). Now in its 13th year, NCSAM is designed to engage and educate through events and initiatives with the goal of raising awareness about cyber security in order to increase the resiliency of the nation in the event of a cyber incident. Since the presidential proclamation establishing NCSAM in 2004, it has been formally recognized by Congress, federal, state and local governments, and leaders from industry and academia. This united effort helps create a cyberspace that is safer, more resilient and remains a source of tremendous opportunity and growth for years to come. Click here to learn more information>>

### New App Helps the FBI Catch Bank Robbers in Colorado



The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has created a new Bank Robbers app for iPhones, iPhones (plus iPads and iPods) and Android smartphones. The app makes it easy for the public—as well as financial institutions, law enforcement agencies, and others—to view photos and information about bank robberies in different geographic areas of the country. The app, which works with BankRobbers.fbi.gov, can be downloaded for free from Apple's app store or Google Play. "Our new bank robbers mobile app is another tool we can use to help mitigate...suspects who pose the greatest safety threats to the public," said Gregory Adams, FBI Violent Crimes Unit. Learn more>>

## Beware Government Impersonators Collecting Fees In Return For Grants



Scam artists are using imposter accounts on social media platforms, like Facebook, to persuade people into sending money in order to receive a large government grant. The scheme usually starts with a friend request from an account pretending to be someone you know. This account then messages you and tells you about how they received their own government grant. Once you ask to hear more, your 'new friend' introduces you to another account that is supposed to be a government official like your State Attorney General. This impersonator account then asks you for a lot of personal information and informs you that you've been selected to receive a free government grant, but first you need to send money up front to pay for fees. Don't fall for it!

Learn more about government grant & imposter scams>>

## Internet Browsing Safety—Think Before You Click



If you're under the impression devious websites are the only places where malware awaits its victims, you are in for a shock. Malware lurks in many corners of the Internet; often in places where you'd least expect it. All it takes is to be in the wrong place at the wrong time to compromise your Internet browsing safety. An unprotected computer is like an open door for websites that threaten your Internet safety with malware, spyware and computer viruses. Firewalls monitor internet traffic in and out of your computer and hide your device from online scammers looking for easy targets. It's important to keep your security software installed and updated on your devices to help protect you from cyber security threats.

Learn more about internet browsing safety>>







