



Tarpon Springs Police Department

Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing



Crimewatch Newsletter

APRIL 2016

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 15 2016

In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community. The principal organizers of National Police Week include:

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), which produces the annual Candlelight Vigil. Phone: (202) 737-3400 | Email: vigil@nleomf.org

Fraternal Order of Police/Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary (FOP/FOPA), which organize the Peace Officers Memorial Day Service at the U.S. Capitol. www.policeweek.org

Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), which holds the National Police Survivors' Conference. Phone: (573) 346-4911 First year survivors, call: (800) 784-2677 | Email: cops@nationalcops.org

NEVER



FORGET

*Happy Mother's
Day
From TSPD!*



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TECH SUPPORT SCAMS

Cybercriminals are no longer targeting victims solely through email messages and fake websites. They're diversifying their tactics and contacting individuals by telephone, claiming to represent well-known software companies and offering to solve computer problems. These individuals may claim that they have detected viruses or other malware on your computer to trick you into granting them remote access to your computer, or paying for software you don't need. The goal of these fraudulent individuals is to make money and access your personal files to steal your identity.

Once scammers have gained your trust, they may ask you to give them remote access to your computer in order to make changes to your settings that could leave your computer vulnerable; try to enroll you in worthless computer maintenance or warranty programs; ask for credit card information so they can bill you for phony services or services you could get elsewhere for free; trick you into installing malware that could steal sensitive data, like user names and passwords; or direct you to websites and ask for your credit card number and other personal information. Regardless of the tactics they use, their intention is to take your money.

If you get a call from someone who claims to be a tech support person, hang up and call the company yourself on a phone number you know to be genuine. A caller who creates a sense of urgency or uses high-pressure tactics is probably a scam artist.

How Can I Avoid Tech Support Scams?

Never grant a third party access to your computer unless you can verify that it is a legitimate representative of a computer support team with whom you are already a customer.

Never provide credit card or financial information over the phone, especially if you did not initiate the call or it is not from a known and trusted source.

Never provide a password over the phone. No legitimate organization will call you to verify your password.

If you receive a call claiming there is a virus on your computer, hang up!

What If I've Fallen Victim?

Update or download security software from a legitimate source and scan your computer. Delete any malware or viruses that may have been downloaded or installed through a third party.

Change the passwords for your computer, email and online banking/credit card accounts.

Contact your credit card provider and dispute charges for any bogus services rendered or purchases made without your consent.

Consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report if you shared personal and banking information with the scammer. Fraud alerts can be administered by calling one of the three major credit report agencies: Experian, Equifax or TransUnion.

For additional information, contact the department at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832) en Español

NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK

National Consumer Protection Week is a coordinated campaign that encourages people to learn about their consumer rights and to make better-informed decisions. NCPW is also an opportunity to address a particularly troubling and challenging consumer protection issue, identity theft.

Identity theft occurs when an individual's personal information, such as their name, Social Security number, or credit card number, is used without their consent to commit fraud and other crimes. Identity thieves commonly use the phone, postal mail, email and the Internet to trick unsuspecting consumers into giving out personal information. Many victims of identity theft are unaware that their information has been compromised until they are denied credit or sent a bill for purchases they did not make.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, Florida has the highest per capita rate of reported identity theft complaints in the nation.

Minimize Your Risk of Becoming a Victim

Prevent identity theft by safeguarding your information. Shred financial documents and paperwork, protect your Social Security number, never click on links sent in unsolicited emails and keep your personal information in a safe place.

Never give out personal information unless you are certain you know who you're dealing with or you initiated the contact.

Order a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit bureaus once a year from Equifax, Experian and TransUnion, and review them for discrepancies, such as accounts that you're unaware of or inaccuracies of your information.

Child Identity Theft

Children comprise the fastest-growing segment of identity theft victims. Identity thieves target young victims for two main reasons:

Children have clean credit records, making it easy for the criminal to create new accounts.

Identity theft among children can go undetected for years.

The Keeping I.D. Safe (KIDS) Act enables parents and guardians to create and freeze credit records for their children, effectively blocking thieves from using their personal information. For more information about placing a freeze on your child's credit, visit FreshFromFlorida.com/ProtectYourChild.

For additional information, contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832) en Español.

Things to do in Tarpon Springs !

TOUCH A TRUCK

APRIL 23 TARPON SPRINGS LIBRARY 10– 2

MAY 5

SUNSET BEACH CONCERT

MAY 6

FIRST FRIDAY DOWNTOWN TARPON

MAY 7

**EIGHTH ANNUAL CAR SHOW FOR BREAST
CANCER.**

TARPON AVENUE 9-6

MAY 14

NIGHT IN THE ISLANDS 6-11

SPONGE DOCKS



**TARPON SPRINGS
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

444 South Huey Avenue
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 727-938-2849
Crime Prevention: 727-937-8753

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www.tspd.us**