An adage to remember

“If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.”

Contact Information

SVC Storefront:
Beverly Plaza
4093 N. Lecanto Hwy
Beverly Hills, Florida 34465
352-249-9139
seniorsvscrime@sheriffcitrus.org

Senior Affairs Coordinator:

Phone 352-527-4260
Fax 352-746-3705

Storefront Hours:
Monday thru Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Citrus County Sheriff’s Office
1 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue
Inverness, Florida 34450
352-726-4488
www.sheriffcitrus.org

A joint project of the
Citrus County Sheriff’s Office
&
Florida Attorney General’s Office

Have you been scammed?
Have you been taken advantage of?
How Does It Work?

A Resource For You...

The primary goal of this program is to reduce the victimization of senior citizens who are often targeted for specific crimes based on their age and to provide a method to help citizens deal with civil issues. We know there are dishonest people out there who would like nothing more than to separate you from your money.

We know there are two sides to every story, and we strive to be impartial in all cases. Each case is handled on an individual basis, and confidentially is maintained in accordance with Florida Public Records Law.

Even though our name says “Seniors,” we service all age groups. If you feel that someone has taken advantage of you, or you feel someone has cheated you out of money or not delivered what they promised, there is something you can do. Please call Seniors vs. Crime and let us help you.

Our History...

The Seniors vs. Crime Storefront project opened its doors on July 2, 2002, to help serve the residents of Citrus County.

Seniors vs. Crime is a nonprofit organization that operates as a Special Project of the Florida Attorney General’s Office. The project was founded in 1989 by Ret. Col. Vern C. Thornton of the Broward County Sheriff’s Office at the direction of Attorney General Bob Butterworth.

If you feel that you have been a victim of a scam or unfair business deal, gather all your documentation (i.e. receipts, work orders, checks, contracts, etc.) and bring them to our office so we can review your case.

Because we know some seniors may feel embarrassed about being a victim, the Storefront uses the philosophy of “seniors helping seniors.” In general, cases are resolved in a short period of time, but some can become quite lengthy.

Bear in mind not all cases will be resolved to your satisfaction. There may be circumstances that prevent us from coming to an agreeable solution, but we strive for compromise whenever possible.

Any case involving a criminal offense is turned over to the Criminal Investigation Division at the Sheriff’s Office for investigation.

Tips to protect yourself...

*Always obtain at least three written estimates, and request references from the company you plan to hire.
* Consult with the Better Business Bureau or government agencies before you have work done.
* Have a written contract for all work to be performed.
* Make sure the contractor is licensed, and has insurance (if required).
* Never provide anyone with your bank account, social security number or important personal information, especially over the phone.
* Be wary of "right now" offers.
* Solicitors selling items over $25 are required to have a permit issued thru the Clerk of Courts.
* Do NOT pay full the amount for a job until it is complete. Some jobs require a customary down payment however use caution.