Nov 12, 2024 Contact Chase Sizemore Phone (850) 245-0150



## Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

## VIDEO: Attorney General Moody Shares Resources to Help Veterans, Service Members and Loved Ones Avoid Scams this Military Family Appreciation Month



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—This Military Family Appreciation Month, Attorney General Moody is sharing resources to help veterans, service members and their families avoid falling victim to scams and other fraudulent schemes. According to the Federal Trade Commission's 2023 Consumer Sentinel Network <u>report</u>, military veterans and families suffered approximately \$477 million in losses to fraud nationwide last year.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Our service members risk their lives to defend our country, and their families carry the burden of holding things down at home while their soldiers are away. The last thing they need are scammers trying to exploit the service of their heroes. In recognition of National Military Family Appreciation Month, we are highlighting free resources available to the families of Florida service members to help them spot and avoid scams designed to exploit military service."

Attorney General Moody's Military Consumer Protection Resource Guide assists Florida service members and veterans. Not only does the guide contain information about common military-related scams, it offers guidance on laws and agencies that provide specific protections for members of the military.

To access the Military Consumer Protection Resource Guide, click here.

The Attorney General's <u>Military and Veterans Assistance Program</u> helps educate military members, veterans and their families on the types of scams that target the military community. MVAP team members work directly with service members, veterans and families who are targeted to help resolve consumer protection matters.

Since 2019, MVAP recovered nearly \$3.7 million for service members, ranging from issues such as gaining access to Veterans Affairs benefits, recuperating from home damages due to hurricanes, reporting various military-targeted scams and more. For more information on MVAP, click <u>here</u>.

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline is also available and free for all eligible military veterans and families living in Florida who need services or have a pending legal issue. The helpline provides legal advice on various civil legal matters and employs attorneys accredited by the VA. The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline can be reached at 1(866) 486-6161.

Attorney General Moody's *Scams at a Glance: Protect Our Patriots* teaches service members and their families about common and emerging military-related scams. To view *Scams at a Glance: Protect Our Patriots*, click <u>here</u>.

Scams and deceptive business practices targeting service members, veterans and their families can be reported to the Florida Attorney General's Office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visiting MyFloridaLegal.com.

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