

Date August 06, 2021

## Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Aug. 6, 2021



Florida students go back to school next week and as a mother, I know firsthand that sending your kids back to school is an exciting, yet stressful event. It takes a lot of planning and shopping to make sure your student has the supplies they need to succeed in the classroom. The good news is the state is holding a Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday that ends on Monday, Aug. 9. The bad news is that scammers may use this opportunity to take advantage of students and parents.

According to a recent news report, [fraudulent school supply advertisements](#) are being seen more frequently on social media. The Better Business Bureau is also reporting an increase in scam emails and phone calls offering [student loan forgiveness plans](#).

Amid all the back-to-school excitement, it can be easy to fall victim to these opportunistic schemes. That is why, this week, I issued a Consumer Alert to warn Floridians.

To avoid back-to-school scams, keep these tips in mind:

- Use a credit card when shopping online for additional consumer protection;
- Before providing information online, make sure the website is secure by identifying the padlock symbol by the URL or the "s" at the end of *http* in the address bar;
- Reach out to a trusted loan servicer to ask about the legitimacy of student loan forgiveness plan offers; and
- Know that legitimate companies will never solicit personal or sensitive information over the phone, by email or by text.

To read the Consumer Alert and learn more about back-to-school schemes, click [here](#).

If you suspect that something is a scam, report it to my office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM or visiting [MyFloridaLegal.com](http://MyFloridaLegal.com).

By staying informed and reporting suspicious activity when you see it, you can help us build a Stronger, Safer Florida. Best of luck to our teachers, students and parents this school year!



## **In The News**

**Don't get schooled by scammers, Florida AG warns, News 4 Jax**

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**Home health aide accused of stealing from Medicaid in St. Lucie County, CBS 12 News West Palm Beach**

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**Attorney General: Former care facility employee arrested after abusing resident with a disability, CBS 10 Tampa Bay**

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**Two Pensacola assisted living facility employees steal from elderly resident, abandon them on roadside, Florida AG says, WKRG Pensacola**

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**Two Escambia County caregivers arrested for stealing debit, ID cards from elderly, ABC 3 WEAR-TV**

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**Manager and employee of assisted living facility arrested for exploitation of an elderly person, Fox 10 News**

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