



Who's Affected?

- In the first nine months of 2023, the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center received more than **195 complaints** regarding grandparent scams.
- Financial losses from grandparent scams in the first nine months of 2023 totaled nearly \$2 million.
- In Florida, there are more than **5.5 million seniors**—many of whom could be targets of grandparent scams.
- In 2024, the Office of the Attorney General filed criminal charges against six scammers for **stealing nearly \$250,000** from Florida seniors through grandparent scams.

Florida Attorney General's Office Scams at a Glance: Grandparent Gifts

Visit MyFloridaLegal.com to find consumer tips or to file a complaint.

Report Grandparent Scams to the
Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
reportfraud.ftc.gov/

View other Scams at a Glance
resources at:
MyFloridaLegal.com/ScamsAtAGlance

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Scams at a Glance: *Grandparent Gifts*



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

JAMES UTHMEIER

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How a Grandparent Scam Works?

- This scam begins with a call from someone pretending to be the grandchild of a target. The schemer may speak softly or make an excuse for sounding different.
- Fraudsters may also spoof phone numbers to appear to be from the grandchild, law enforcement or the hospital.
- The scammer, posing as the victim's grandchild, will then claim to be in trouble and need money.
- Once the victim sends money to the scammer, often through wire transfer, cryptocurrency, gift cards or other means, victims are often unable to get the money back.

Tips to Stay Protected

- Resist the urge to act immediately. Hang up and check with the grandchild or other family members.
- Know that anyone demanding payment in the form of gift card, cryptocurrency or wire transfer is probably a scammer—never send money to solicitors through these means.
- Be aware that scammers may use information found on a victim's family members' social media platforms to appear credible.



Be on the Lookout for AI Grandparent Scams

- Scammers may use AI voice cloning to impersonate grandchildren or other loved ones. The schemers may pretend to have kidnapped a family member and use AI voice cloning to convey a false plea for help.
- It is important to understand that even if the caller sounds exactly like a grandchild or other loved one, it may still be an artificial voice.
- If a caller purports to be a grandchild, ask personal questions only loved ones would know.
- Never send money to these bad actors; contact local law enforcement if someone claims to have kidnapped a grandchild or another loved one.