



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

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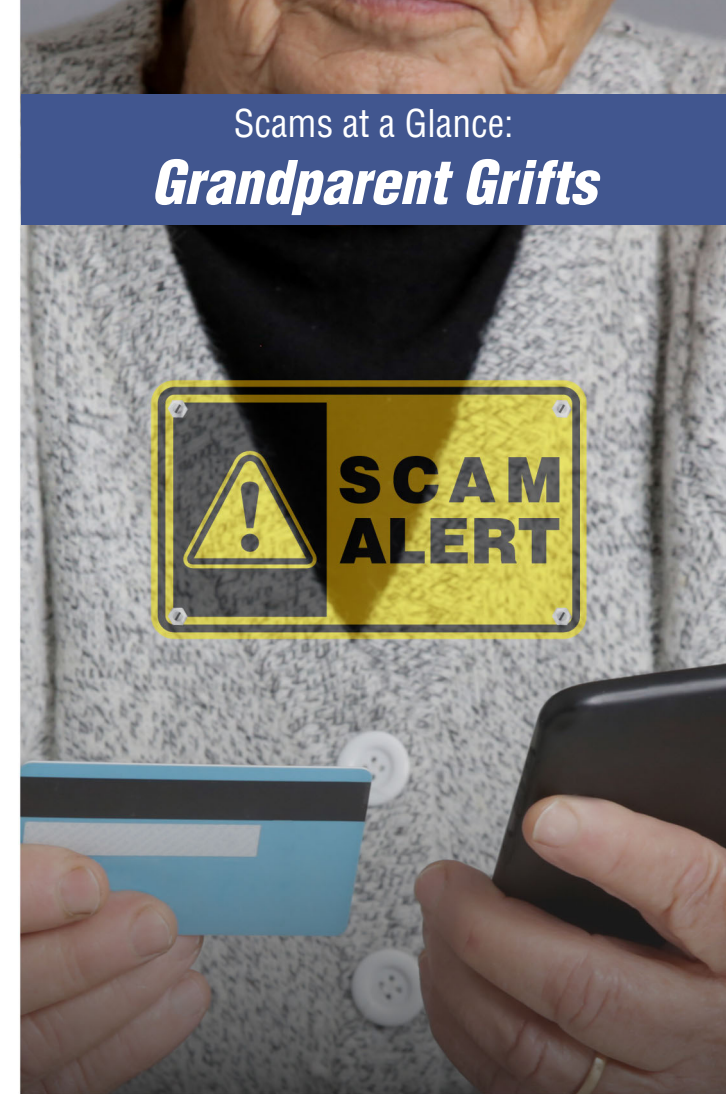
### Who's Affected?

- 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.

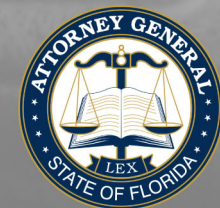
Report Grandparent Scams to the  
Federal Trade Commission (FTC)  
[reportfraud.ftc.gov/](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/)

View other Scams at a Glance  
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[MyFloridaLegal.com/ScamsAtAGlance](https://www.MyFloridaLegal.com/ScamsAtAGlance)

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### Scams at a Glance: *Grandparent Gifts*



OFFICE OF THE  
**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
**STATE OF FLORIDA**



## 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.
- Scammers may request to meet and receive the money in person. If this happens, hang up and call local law enforcement immediately.



## 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.