Date September 01, 2023



1, 2023



This week, Floridians endured the wrath of Hurricane Idalia. The storm made landfall as a dangerous Category 3 hurricane Wednesday morning in the Big Bend region.

The wreckage left by Idalia is truly devastating, leaving many communities in ruins that will take months to recover fully. But Floridians are resilient; and while visiting Dixie, Levy and Taylor counties, I heard many inspiring stories of Floridians coming together and rebuilding immediately after the storm.

Unfortunately, we still need to remain alert, as scammers may try to exploit this tragedy to rip off Floridians through contractor fraud, debris removal scams, price gouging or even looting. I have already been in touch with local law enforcement and state attorneys in the hardest hit areas of our state. We will not allow criminals to exploit this crisis to target Floridians trying to rebuild their lives.

My office also issued a Consumer Alert with information for Floridians to help avoid contractor fraud, FEMA impersonation scams and other disaster-related schemes. To view our Consumer Alert, click here.

Our Scams at a Glance: After the Storm brochure can also help. This resource provides tips to avoid scams involving repairs, tree services, water testing and treatment. To view the brochure, click here.

Also, please know that our Price Gouging Hotline remains active in the counties covered under the declared state of emergency. Anyone who suspects price gouging can report it to my office by using the No Scam app, visiting MyFloridaLegal.com or calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM.

Law enforcement, the National Guard and emergency personnel are working around the clock to help those in need of assistance. I am so grateful for those who have left their home to help Floridians in their time of need. We will get through this difficult time together and come out of it stronger.

Stay safe, Florida.



In The News

Florida Attorney General urges Floridians to report price gouging after Idalia, ABC 7 Sarasota

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Avoid scams in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia, Florida Attorney General warns, ABC Action News Tampa Bay

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Hurricane Idalia: Tips to avoid post-storm scams, WFTV 9 Orlando

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Florida issues warning to potential looters in wake of hurricane, News Nation

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Here’s how to report price gouging during a state of emergency in Florida, Click Orlando

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Ashley Moody Helps Ensure Roomster and Owners Can’t Use Deceptive Reviews, Florida Daily

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Protecting Floridians

CONSUMER ALERT: Attorney General Moody Warns Floridians Affected by Hurricane Idalia About Disaster-Related Scams



Attorney General Ashley Moody is warning Floridians to be cautious of price gouging, disaster scams and fraud in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia.

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Attorney General Moody Puts Would-Be Looters on Notice After Hurricane Idalia Strike—Florida Will Not Tolerate Lawlessness



Attorney General Moody sent a letter to state attorneys in the circuits affected by Idalia, outlining state law requiring that no defendant charged with a theft crime committed in an area under a declared state of emergency be released prior to a first appearance hearing.

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Attorney General Moody Secures Agreement to Permanently Ban Roomster and Owners from Using Deceptive Reviews



Attorney General Ashley Moody secured an agreement banning Roomster and its

owners from purchasing consumer reviews to promote the business.

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Events

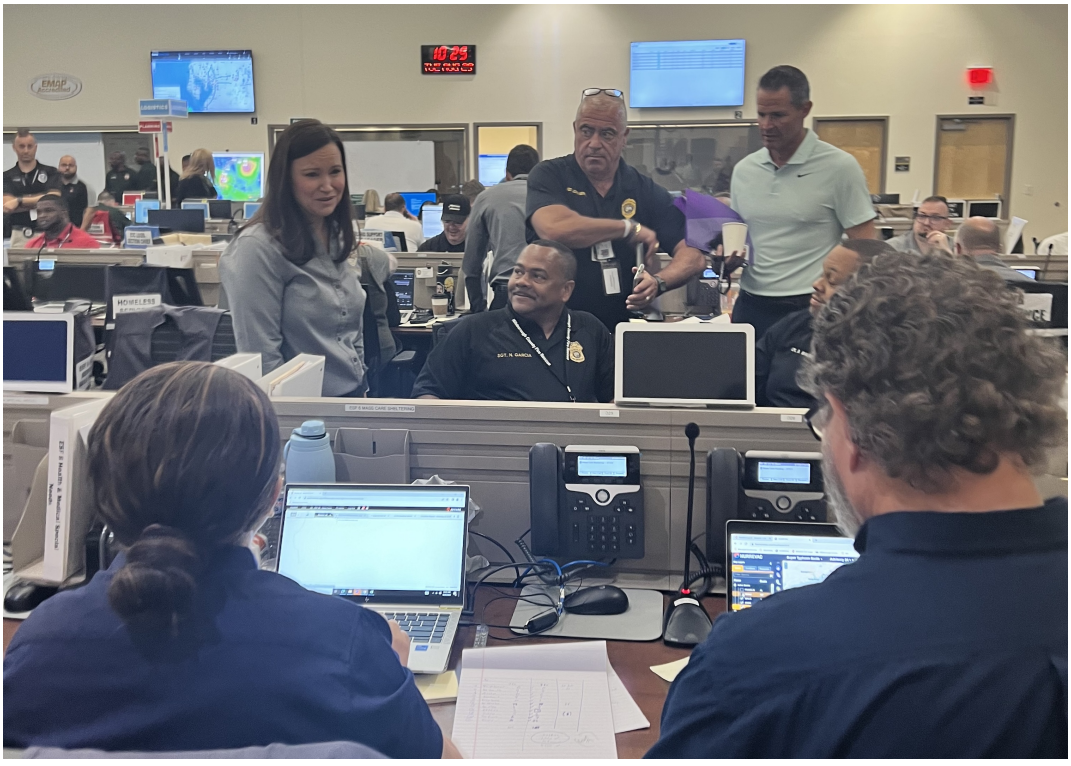
This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody joined Gov. Ron DeSantis, statewide leaders and Pinellas County officials to inform Floridians on how to report price gouging as Hurricane Idalia approached Florida.



Attorney General Moody, alongside Hillsborough County officials, warning Floridians to prepare for Idalia.



Attorney General Moody thanking emergency workers for their hard work.



Attorney General Moody in Cedar Key with Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Deanne Criswell, Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd and Florida Division of Emergency Management Executive Director Kevin Guthrie in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia.

