Date December 10, 2021

Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Dec. 10, 2021



This week, I announced millions in relief for consumers regarding cancellations, purchases and scams related to the pandemic. Once COVID-19 hit Florida last year, my Consumer Protection Division kicked into high gear to protect Floridians from scams related to the health crisis—working tirelessly over the past year and a half to help resolve consumer matters.
Thanks to these efforts and reports from you, we were able to obtain more than $11 million in relief for consumers in Florida and nationwide.

In addition to these recoveries, my Rapid Response Team worked to deactivate nearly 300 posts on online platforms selling essential commodities for outrageous prices. We also made thousands of contacts and referrals with businesses regarding allegations of price gouging, failure to make refunds, credits for cancellations and other concerns.

As Florida’s Attorney General, it is my mission to protect Floridians from scams—whether that is during a pandemic, hurricane season or when things seem relatively calm. We always stand ready to assist Floridians who encounter deceptive and unfair trade practices.

You can help us in this mission by reporting scams or other suspicious activity. By working together, we will build a Stronger, Safer Florida.



In The News

Ashley Moody recovers $11M from pandemic scams, cancellations, Florida Politics

Read More

WATCH: Attorney General Ashley Moody Encourages Road Safety During National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, Space Coast Daily

Read More

Florida AG pushes back against proposals that could weaken sex trafficking laws, CBS 12 News

Read More

Florida Attorney General launches statewide task force targeting retail thieves, ABC 9 Orlando

Read More

Database aims to thwart retail theft rings before they organize here, Hernando Sun

Read More

Ashley Moody sues Joe Biden administration over immigrant flights into Florida, Florida Politics

Read More

Protecting Floridians

Attorney General Moody and FTC Recover $1.8 Million for Consumers in Florida and Nationwide Harmed by Robocall Scam



Consumers nationwide will receive $1.8 million in refunds as a result of actions taken by Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Federal Trade Commission to shut down a massive robocall scheme. Recipients include more than 1,300 Florida victims targeted by Lifewatch Inc. According to a federal-state investigation, Lifewatch bombarded consumers with more than one billion unsolicited robocalls pitching a variety of products and services, including fraudulent medical alert systems. Many of the illegal robocalls targeted seniors and tricked consumers into paying for supposedly free, in-home medical alert devices.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “My Consumer Protection Division is fighting to shut down illegal robocalls and recover funds for Floridians harmed by scams connected to these automated messages. Working with the FTC, we have recovered thousands of dollars for Floridians harmed by the sham robocall operation.” Read More

Attorney General Moody Challenges Efforts to Weaken Laws Against Human Trafficking



Attorney General Ashley Moody is challenging efforts to weaken laws against human trafficking, sexual abuse, assault and exploitation. Along with 35 other attorneys general, Attorney General Moody is calling on the American Law Institute to reject proposed changes to Section 213 of the Model Penal Code that would weaken the ability of states to prosecute these crimes, jeopardize the safety of victims and restrict the ability of law enforcement to protect the general public. The proposed amendments to the MPC are a departure from federal statutes, and the majority of state laws, that would negatively affect victims of human trafficking and sexual assault. The amendments also pose significant risks to the public by relaxing the requirements for the Sex Offender Registry.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, “We have made great strides in our fight to end human trafficking, but these proposed changes to the Model Penal Code could undermine our progress in holding traffickers accountable. I am challenging these amendments to the MPC that would leave victims of these heinous crimes more vulnerable and pose a serious risk to others. We cannot let soft-on-crime policies affect the safety of our citizens.” Read More

Events

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody participated in the National Association of Attorneys General Capital Forum in Washington D.C. During the forum, Attorney General Moody moderated a panel on cybercrime.



From left to right: Colorado Chief Deputy Attorney General Natalie Hanlon Leh, Dentons Senior Counsel Ronald Hedges, Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the Department of Justice’s National Security Division Adam Hickey, Attorney General Moody

Attorney General Moody meeting with U.S. Rep. Carlos Giménez of South Florida in Washington D.C.



Attorney General Moody with U.S. Rep. Michael Waltz who represents Florida’s sixth congressional district.

