Date April 02, 2021

Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - April 2, 2021

This week, we highlighted the tragic fact that the number of Florida law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty continues to increase at an alarming rate. It’s no secret that 2020 was a challenging year for frontline workers—including our brave law enforcement officers. The law enforcement community lost more than twice as many officers in the line of duty in 2020 than in the previous year—totaling more than 350 officers lost nationwide.

Many of those deaths were attributed to COVID-19, and unfortunately the new year has not lessened the dangers associated with keeping our communities safe.

However, COVID-19 is no longer the main culprit.

Violent attacks against law enforcement officers are escalating. In fact, Florida has proven to be the deadliest state thus far in 2021 for law enforcement officer deaths due to felonious acts.

As the wife of a law enforcement officer, these statistics both sadden and infuriate

me—and we MUST put a stop to it. Even in the face of these harrowing numbers, Florida law enforcement officers still show up daily to protect the communities they serve. It’s time we show up for them and put a stop to this disturbing trend.

You can help report crime by calling **TIPS (8477) on a mobile device to file an anonymous report, or by calling 911 if you see a crime in progress.

Additionally, if you see a law enforcement officer, even if it is while being pulled over for a traffic violation, thank them for the risks they take to keep us safe.

By lifting up our law enforcement community and showing a strong, united front in support of our brave officers, we will build a Stronger, Safer Florida.

In The News

Attorney General Ashley Moody Issues Update on Record Amount of 2021 Florida Law Enforcement Officer Deaths, Space Coast Daily

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Ashley Moody sues over tax cut ban in federal COVID-19 relief act, Florida Politics

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Florida AG asks online sites to block sales of fake COVID vaccination cards, News 4 Jax

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IRS: Be On the Lookout for Identity Thieves This Tax Season, Spectrum News 13

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Protecting Floridians

Attorney General Moody Takes Action Against Biden Administration Over Federal Restrictions to Limit State Tax Cuts

Attorney General Ashley Moody joined a 13-state coalition in filing suit to protect the well-established authority of states to lower taxes for their citizens. The lawsuit argues federal treasury officials cannot force states to relinquish control of their taxing authority in return for much-needed economic aid related to COVID-19. The states take specific issue with a stimulus bill provision that the coalition refers to as one of the most egregious power grabs by the federal government in the nation's history.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "The federal government is trying to tell Florida we cannot lower your taxes. This is simply outrageous and a gross power grab by our federal government. We do not need Washington, D.C. politicians further meddling in Florida's tax policy and prohibiting our leaders from taking action in the best interest of our citizens. As Florida's Attorney General, it is my duty to stand up for our state's rights and the sovereignty of the Florida legislature. That is why I am joining attorneys general from across the country in taking legal action against the Biden administration to end this heavy-handed federal overreach." Read More

ation Cards

Attorney

General Ashley Moody called on eBay, Shopify and Twitter to act immediately to prevent scammers from selling fraudulent COVID-19 vaccination cards on their platforms. Attorney General Moody is joined by a bipartisan coalition of 44 other attorneys general in raising concerns about the public health risks of fake COVID-19 vaccination cards in a letter to the companies' chief executive officers.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "As the availability of COVID-19 vaccines increases, so do the number of scammers trying to exploit this health crisis for personal gain. I am asking eBay, Shopify and Twitter to help us prevent fraud by taking action to stop the sale of fraudulent vaccination cards through their online platforms." Read More

REMINDER: Do Not Post Your COVID-19 Vaccine Card on Social Media

Attorney General Ashley Moody is reminding Floridians of the risks associated with posting COVID-19 vaccine cards online. Attorney General Moody initially warned of scams associated with vaccine card posts in February, but since then, millions of Floridians have received a vaccine. With the ramp up in vaccinations occurring throughout the state, comes an increased risk of fraud related to the inoculations. Vaccination cards issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention include the recipient's full name, birthdate and vaccine location—information scammers can use to hack online accounts or commit identity fraud.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "It is encouraging to see so many Floridians receiving their COVID-19 vaccines, but be cautious when sharing the good news online. Scammers can use information from a vaccine card to hack financial accounts, commit identity theft or even create fake vaccinations cards and sell them on the black market. Instead of posting your card, consider using an announcement or picture that does not reveal any personal information."

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Events

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody gave the virtual opening address for United Way’s Women United Florida Capitol Days 2021. Attorney General Moody spoke with a network of women leaders who advocate for their communities about human trafficking and how everyone can play a role in stopping this horrific crime.

Attorney General Moody meeting with Federal Maritime Commissioner L.E. Sola in her Capitol office to discuss relaunching the U.S. cruise industry and getting Floridians safely back to work.

Attorney General Moody appearing on the Fox Business program Mornings with Maria to discuss state opposition to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s No Sail Order. The federal lockdown on the cruise industry in Florida must end so Floridians can get back to work and travel safely.