

e FLORIDA CONSUMER **NEWSLETTER**

www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com

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March 2022 Newsletter Topics



National Weights and Measures Week:

FDACS monitors the accuracy of Florida's gas pumps, scales, price scanners, and other commercial weighing and measuring devices. This week provides an opportunity to highlight the skill and expertise of the FDACS inspectors.



National Consumer Protection Week:

FDACS and the FTC observe National Consumer Protection Week each year during the first full week of March. This is a time to highlight the resources available to consumers and to help them understand their consumer rights and make well-informed decisions.



Romance Scams:

A romance scam occurs when a criminal creates a fake online identity and uses it to gain the affection and trust of a victim, and these criminals are accomplished con artists.



Dealing with Debt Collectors:

A new rule impacting consumer rights and risks in dealing with debt collectors under the Fair Debt Collection Practice Act went into effect on November 30, 2021. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau recently shared five keys things to know about the new rule.



Burger Franchises Sold with a Side of Lies:

According to a lawsuit filed by the Department of Justice, a burger franchise promoted their franchises as “a business in a box” and pocketed tens of millions from franchise sales. Unfortunately, most franchises that were sold never opened, and some franchisees lost tens of thousands of dollars.



National Surveyors Week

This is a week set aside every March to honor and celebrate the surveying profession and to highlight the important role surveyors play in our nation.



Termite Awareness Week:

Termites cause billions of dollars of damage annually in the United States, and Florida is home to over twenty different species of termites.

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The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is the state's clearinghouse for consumer complaints, protection and information. Consumers who would like information about filing a complaint against a business or who believe fraud has taken place can visit us online at FloridaConsumerHelp.com or contact the department's consumer protection and information hotline by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or 1-800-FL-AYUDA (352-9832) for Spanish speakers.

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Nicole "Nikki" Fried, Commissioner

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