

PRESS RELEASE

PETER J. LUCIDO MACOMB COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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Macomb County Prosecutor Works to Safeguard Seniors from SCAMS

Mount Clemens, MI - Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido wants seniors to beware of scams. Prosecutor Lucido offers free SCAM prevention presentations to seniors and their loved ones to protect them from scams and give them the information they need to recognize and avoid becoming a victim of SCAMS.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office provides an informational booklet called "S.C.A.M.S. Stopping Crimes Against Macomb Seniors," to inform senior citizens of Macomb County how to protect themselves. The booklet provides valuable information on scams including identity theft, telemarketing fraud, internet fraud, home improvement fraud and caregiver fraud. The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office's goal is to promote safety and provide the necessary tools to avoid being taken advantage of by criminals. Prosecutor Lucido wants to help our vulnerable and aging communities by providing essential information and clarity to those who need it or in need.

Many scams are sent by email or phone calls. We have recently become aware of a man impersonating a police officer and asking for money over the phone. A **police agency will never ask for money over the phone.** Other recent scams to be aware of include: a fake flier titled "Setting Up Lockbox/Garage Code with Macomb County Dispatch," emails from the "GEEK Squad" with an invoice, or auto renewal notice, fake emails from a bank or institution about being approved for a loan or opening an account, callers who pose as a relative who is jail, or use artificial intelligence to mimic the voice of a loved one in a distressing situation. These are scams. **Do not give any personal information over the phone or via email to anyone you do not know.**

The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office presents Senior SCAMS presentations throughout Macomb County. This free presentation will include the SCAMS booklets and discussion on the current scams regarding Macomb County seniors. These valuable SCAMS booklets will be

distributed at all three upcoming expos where the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office is sponsoring the events:

Senior Expo - Shelby Township

Monday, September 25, 2023 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm The Palazzo Grande located at 54660 Van Dyke Ave. in Shelby Twp., MI 48315

Senior Fun Festival

Friday, September 29, 2023 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Lorenzo Cultural Center located at 44575 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp., MI

Senior Expo - Sterling Heights/ Warren

Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm Century Banquet Center located at 33204 Maple Lane in Sterling Heights, MI 48312

"My mission is to protect the greatest generation to ever live, our seniors, from criminals. Through free presentations and providing S.C.A.M.S. Stopping Crimes Against Macomb Seniors' booklets, our vulnerable seniors are armed with the knowledge to prevent identity theft, telemarketing fraud, internet deceit, home improvement cons, and caregiver fraud. The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office is here to safeguard your golden years," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido.

If you would like to have a Senior S.C.A.M.S. presentation for your group or at your location please contact Heather Esposito at (586) 469-5642 or <u>heather.esposito@macombgov.org</u>. We will be happy to schedule a presentation for your group or organization.

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