



Better Business Bureau®

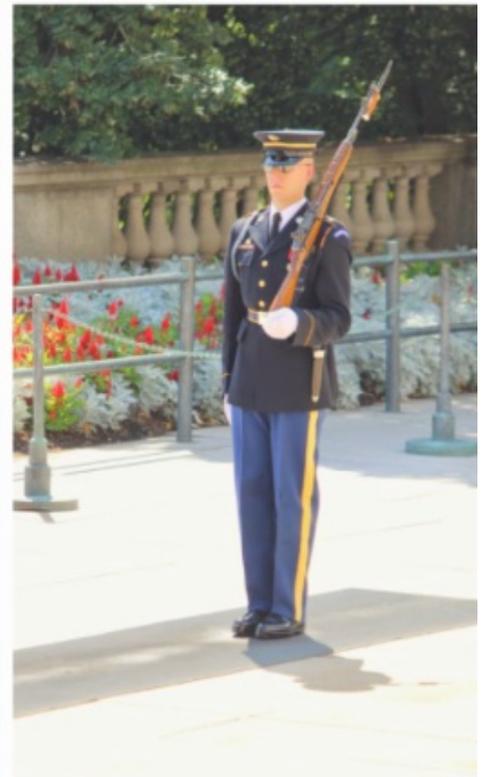
Trusted Scout

Better Business Bureau® Military Line® Consumer News and Alerts



May 2018 | Volume XXVII

2018 National Military Appreciation Month



2018
*National Military
Appreciation
Month*

"Word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard."

President John F. Kennedy

May is National Military Appreciation Month--a time to pay homage to service members current and former. The BBB Institute would like to thank all members of the armed forces who have served and sacrificed to protect our country.

Saving with U.S. Saving Bonds

By Military Saves

Helping People Save-- **Ready.Save.Grow--** is a U.S. Department of the Treasury initiative to help people save and take control of their future.

Setting money aside for the future is an important step toward reaching your long-term goals, whether that means saving for your child's college education or preparing for a more comfortable retirement. Learn how convenient saving can be with Treasury securities.

[Read More](#)

5 Tips to Avoid Damaging Your Credit Score

By Military.com

A good credit score will not only facilitate your ability to get financing for a car, a home and many other things at favorable interest rates, but it can also help you get a job and obtain or keep your security clearance. Your credit score is a very important number. So, how do you build and maintain a good one -- and, over time, even improve your score?

The first step is to understand how your score is calculated. The three primary credit reporting bureaus -- Equifax, Experian and TransUnion -- use formulas that take into account five key factors.

[Read More](#)

BBB SPOTLIGHT

BBB Tip: Digital Spring Cleaning

By Better Business Bureau

With spring in full swing, there is a good chance that your weekend plans may include scrubbing, sweeping and sprucing up your home for the season. While clearing clutter is an annual ritual for many households, the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) and the Better Business Bureau (BBB) have teamed up to remind all consumers not to be digital hoarders and to freshen up their online lives. By conducting a digital spring cleaning and taking care of overdue online maintenance, you will be safer and more secure against losing personal information and becoming a victim of identity theft.

[Read More](#)

New Online Scams Target Soldiers, Army Warns

By Armytimes.com

Cyber criminals usually pose as service members looking for love --and money -- from unsuspecting victims, but Army Criminal Investigation Command is also warning soldiers of sales and advance-fee schemes.

In the sales schemes, victims are offered goods, usually high-priced ones, below market value. These scams often involve vehicles, house rentals or other costly purchases. The scammer pretends they have to deploy soon, which is why they need to quickly sell the item.

[Read More](#)

Tips for Keeping Kids' Information Safe Online

By Children's Advertising Review Unit (CARU)

In a post-Cambridge Analytica world, we have learned how far-reaching the implications are of what we share online. Initially, social media made connecting with our friends and families easier, but the platforms have grown so rapidly that we may not have had ample time to analyze the consequences. The sharing of our daily lives is now second-nature to most. For instance, according to Gizmodo, there are over 300 million photos uploaded to Facebook per day. The amount of information users willingly share is likely too much to measure, however once that information is shared and photos are posted, control of the content is relinquished and you may be opening your family up to an unwanted invasion of privacy--or worse, to online predators.

[Read More](#)

REPORT A SCAM



Happy Mother's Day!

BBB Scam TrackerSM

Brought to you by the BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust

Spot a business or offer that sounds like an illegal scheme or fraud? Tell us about it. Help us investigate and warn others by reporting what you know.

[Report a Scam](#)

Search for Scams

Search using any or all of the fields below:

Keyword

Scam Type

All Scam Types

Country

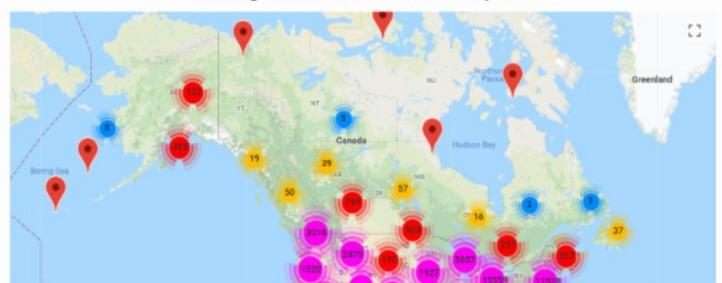
Canada + U.S.

Date Reported

Feb 13, 2015 to Apr 10, 2018

Search

Showing 105,667 Scams of 105,667 Reported



The BBB Institute would like to wish all Military Moms a very Happy Mother's Day. Thank you for your many years of service!

! NOTE
If you lost money to a scammer through Western Union, [read this](#)



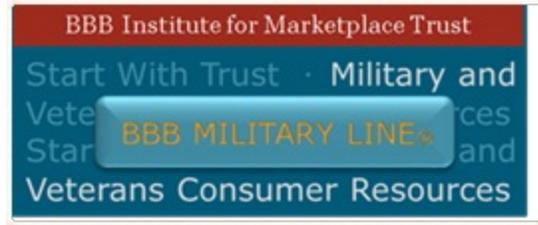
[Click here to report a scam](#)



Military Spouse Appreciation Day 2018

May 11th is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. The BBB Institute would like to honor all military spouses. Thank you for your contributions, commitment and support!

RESOURCES



Like what you see in this newsletter? Have any feedback? [Please get in touch with us!](#)



BBB Military and Veterans Initiative brings BBB consumer education and services to military personnel (including Reservists and National Guard), retirees, veterans, DoD civilians, and their families.