

## Military Consumers at Higher Risk for Marketplace Losses, According to BBB Report

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Military consumers face unique challenges in the marketplace that can result in higher median losses to scammers and other marketplace fraud, according to the Better Business Bureau’s new report, *Military Consumers & Marketplace Trust: An Analysis of Marketplace Challenges Facing the Military Community* ([BBB.org/MilitaryReport](http://BBB.org/MilitaryReport)). This report was created in partnership with the [Association of Military Banks of America](http://Association of Military Banks of America).

[Read our Press Release](#)



## Why Report Fraud?

BY CAROL KANDO-PINEDA, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Scammers are good at what they do – and they target all of us. They hope to get people off balance just long enough to take advantage. In 2018, the Federal Trade Commission received more than 122,500 reports from military consumers—including current or former service members or military spouses.

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## Financial Protections for Your Service Member

BY MILITARY ONESOURCE

If your service member ever gets into financial trouble, it can impact their military career. For this reason, there are two major laws—the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and the Military Lending Act—that help protect the finances and ease the stress of active duty service members and their families.

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## Five Myths in the Military Community About Personal Finance

BY ANTHONY CAMILLI, CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Over the past eight years, the Bureau's Office of Servicemember Affairs (OSA) has engaged with military families throughout the country and even the world. OSA has heard lots of barracks rumors and scuttlebutt and hopes to arm you with the ground truth about the following financial topics.

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### 8 Tips from BBB: What to Do After a Data Breach

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Better Business Bureau has some suggestions for consumers concerned that their credit or debit cards may have been compromised by a data breach.

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#### The Equifax Breach – A Global Settlement

 \$575,000,000+ settlement

 Free credit monitoring and identity theft services

 Strong data security requirements

→ Learn more: [ftc.gov/Equifax](https://ftc.gov/Equifax)

Source: Federal Trade Commission | FTC.gov

### Equifax Data Breach Settlement: What You Should Know

BY ALVARO PUIG, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

In September of 2017, Equifax announced a data breach that exposed the personal information of 147 million people. Under a recent settlement filed, Equifax agreed to spend up to \$425 million to help people affected.

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## Dangers of Payday Loans and Some Alternatives

BY BRUCY McCLARY, NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR CREDIT COUNSELING

Recent figures have shown that nearly one out of every ten American adults have borrowed money in the form of a payday loan. The lenders often prefer to use the softer "short-term loan" or "small-dollar loan" labels. Payday lending is part of a \$9 billion industry known for offering costly loans without a credit check.

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# Don't Make Investment Decisions Based Solely on Celebrity Endorsements

BY THE OFFICE OF INVESTOR EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY, THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Celebrities, from movie stars to professional athletes, take to TV, radio, and social media to endorse a wide variety of products – sometimes even investment opportunities. But a celebrity endorsement does not mean that an investment is legitimate or that it is appropriate for all investors. It is never a good idea to make an investment decision just because someone famous says a product or service is a good investment.

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## BBB Tip: Back to School

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Parents and students expect to spend more than ever on back-to-school shopping this year, according to the [National Retail Federation's annual survey](#). If you or a student in your life is shopping for books, clothes, school supplies, backpacks or other items, be sure to keep these tips in mind.

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## 3 Tips (and a 56-Page Guide) to Help Military Spouses Find Career Success

BY MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Military spouses are as diverse as their career paths, but they share some common challenges when it comes to finding and maintaining gainful employment. MOAA recognizes these unique challenges and is here to help.

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We help military service members, veterans and their families protect their assets, plan for the future, and prosper in a trusted marketplace. [BBB.org/Military](http://BBB.org/Military)

