

July is Military Consumer Month



Military Consumer Month: 4 Tips to Find Businesses You Can Trust

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

July is Military Consumer Month and the Better Business Bureau is here to share the many tips and resources BBB has for military service members, veterans and military families.

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Military Consumer Month: Imposter Scams

BY ANDREW SMITH, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Last year, imposter scams once again topped the list of frauds that military consumers reported to the FTC. More than 36,000 servicemembers, veterans, or family members [reported an imposter scam](#). Although only 11% of them reported losing money, their total losses to this type of scam were \$34 million, with a median loss of \$900.

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Thrift Savings Plan Changes Coming This Fall

BY JIM ABSHER, MILITARY.COM

The [Thrift Savings Plan \(TSP\)](#) is undergoing some major changes this fall which will make it much easier to withdraw funds. Beginning Sept. 15, 2019 you'll be able to make partial withdrawals from your account at any time, change any installment payments and make additional partial withdrawals whenever you need to.

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For Military Consumers: Free Electronic Credit Monitoring

BY AMANDA KOULOUSIAS, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

If you're in the military or know someone who is, you'll want to read on. Starting in September, the nationwide credit reporting agencies – Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion – must provide [free electronic credit monitoring services](#) to active duty servicemembers serving away from their usual duty station and to National Guard members.

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Scams and Fraud



Photo: By karen roach/Shutterstock.com

BBB Tip: How to Spot and Stop Robocalls

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

If you've received a lot of robocalls calls recently, you're not alone. Nearly 2.4 billion robocalls are made every month, according to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Read more about what kind of robocalls are allowed, and how to avoid robocall scams.

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Scam Alert: Don't Be Fooled by a Fake Package Delivery Scam

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

With so many people shopping online, package deliveries are on the rise and have doubled since 2010. Scammers, never missing a beat, are taking advantage of this to fool consumers into giving out their personal information.

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Learn the Warning Signs of 'Military Scams'

BY MILITARY ONESOURCE

Your military friend or family member serves our country with integrity and honor. Unfortunately, there are scammers out there who try to take advantage of that service to cheat them and you. You can help protect your service member against military scams by learning the warning signs of schemes that target those in the military community.

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Research and Updates

Financial Prosperity Eludes Many Americans Despite Growing Economy and Declining Unemployment

BY FINRA INVESTOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION (FINRA FOUNDATION)

As the gap between the Haves and the Have-not's continues to widen, cash-strapped Americans are failing to save money, struggling with student loan debt and facing decreasing financial literacy, despite economic growth and declining unemployment over the past 10 years, according to new research from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation (FINRA Foundation).

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Privatized Military Housing Updates You Need to Know

BY JEN HURWITZ, PH.D, MILITARY FAMILY ADVISORY NETWORK (MFAN)

After the incredible number of [research responses](#), eye-opening testimonies, and media attention surrounding the conditions in privatized housing at some military installations, we are seeing [change happen](#). We have three updates about privatized military housing that you need to know.

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BBB RESOURCES

View scams reported in your area and learn how to protect your family and loved ones.

[Report a Scam](#)



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