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**Attorney General Clark Releases Top 10 Scams of 2024**

*VT-ALERT and the Attorney General's Office partner to inform the public of scams*

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermonters made a total of 3,533 scam reports to the Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) in 2024. Leading the list was the "Computer Tech Support" scam, totaling almost 30% of the top scams reported. This scam tricks people with sudden alerts about alleged computer issues, such as expiring antivirus software or malware infections. Variations also include fake messages to the consumer's phone or email about packages or unauthorized orders. Noticeably, this marks the fourth consecutive year this scam has ranked as the most reported.

The email extortion scam has returned to the list after a four-year hiatus. These troubling emails threaten to release personally compromising photos and information. A new and disturbing twist on this scam is the emails include screen-captured images of the recipient's home from online map services to further unsettle recipients and pressure them into complying with the scammers' demands.

"Educating consumers is the best way to protect Vermonters from scams," said Attorney General Clark. "With most scams originating overseas, they are incredibly difficult to shut down. These are the top scams to look out for."

More information about scam prevention strategies and other resources can be found on the [CAP Connection blog](#), at Attorney General Clark's social media sites, and by signing up for VT Scam Alert System scam alerts. To sign up, visit [CAP's scam prevention website](#). Roughly 9,000 Vermonters have signed up to receive alerts.

The VT Scam Alert System was previously established through a partnership with Vermont Emergency Management that granted the Attorney General's Office permission to manage a contact list and issue alerts utilizing limited features of the Vermont Alert system. [VT-ALERT](#) is the state's notification system for emergencies, severe weather, roadway interruptions and hazards, environmental hazards, and more. This year, the Attorney General's Office and VT-ALERT are strengthening this partnership by merging the existing VT Scam Alert System with the well-established VT-ALERT system.

“Vermonters have long relied on Vermont Alert to notify them of floods, hazardous travel, local boil water notices, and countless other issues that impact their lives,” Vermont Emergency Management Director Eric Forand said. “Scam alerts will add a layer of protection of Vermonters’ financial security for those who choose to receive them.” Attorney General Clark thanked Vermont Emergency Management for their partnership.

In the future, whenever someone signs up for VT-ALERT, they will have the option to choose to receive notifications about scams among the list of options. VT-ALERT’s 72,000 existing users can also update their preferences to add scam alerts.

Attorney General Clark reminds Vermonters to report scams and get support if you or a loved one falls victim to a scam by contacting her Consumer Assistance Program. Call 800-649-2424 or email [AGO.CAP@vermont.gov](mailto:AGO.CAP@vermont.gov).

**The Top 10 Scams of 2024:**

<b>Top 10</b>	<b>Scam Type</b>	<b>Reported Totals</b>
1	Computer Tech Support	645
2	Identity Theft	324
3	Law Enforcement Imposter	276
4	Medicare Card Phishing	184
5	Relationship Imposter	145
6	Fake Websites/Online Listing	142
7	Email Extortion	141
8	Sweepstakes/Lottery	128
9	Deceitful Solicitation	126
10	Bank-related Phishing	112

Total Reports in the Top 10: **2,223**

**Total Number of All Scams:** **3,533**

A chart containing the Top 10 Scams of 2024 is below and can be found [here](#).

A complete overview of the Top 10 Scams of 2024, including how to spot them, is available [here](#).

