



# Tarpon Springs Police Department

*Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing*



SEPT 2017

## Crime Watch Newsletter

### Attorney General Asks Equifax for More Consumer Safety

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Pam Bondi joined 33 other attorney generals to send a letter to Equifax, Inc., a national credit reporting bureau, regarding the company's massive data breach. The breach exposed the personal information of nearly half the consumers residing in the United States and its territories, 143 million consumers.

In the letter, the attorney generals

.+ express concern about, among other things, Equifax's offer to sell consumers a fee-based service while at the same time providing free credit monitoring services. The objection is that Equifax is seemingly using its own data breach as an opportunity to sell services. The Attorney General wants to protect consumers who are victims of this breach from being marketed additional services as they struggle to protect themselves from identity theft

Attorney General Bondi asserts that if a fee-based service provides additional protection for consumers, then Equifax should upgrade what it is offering currently for free to include the additional security protection.

*FALL IS HERE  
Check out page  
4 for things to  
do this month!*



PAGE 2 CLEAN UP  
SCAMS.

PAGE 3 HALLOWEEN  
SAFETY

PAGE 4 THINGSTO  
DO

As the immediate crisis of Hurricane Irma passes, consumers will start to evaluate any damage done and begin the clean-up process. Better Business Bureau receives hundreds of complaints every year concerning sub-par work performed by contractors, and encourages consumers to take the time to properly research contractors to avoid creating a bigger problem. Natural disasters can bring out the best in people, as strangers reach out to help others in need. Unfortunately, the aftermath of a crisis typically also brings out many types of scams and unlicensed contractors who take advantage of those who have been victimized.

Better Business Bureau serving West Florida (BBB) is warning local residents that may be affected by Hurricane Irma to beware of storm chasers and out-of-town contractors soliciting business. “It is common for out-of-town storm chasers to solicit business after storms,” said Karen Nalven, BBB President. “Disaster victims should never feel pressured to make a decision by an unknown contractor. Consumers should start with trust and look for the BBB Accredited Business Seal; these companies are screened, monitored, licensed and trusted. Storm chasers may not have proper licensure for your area and may offer quick fixes or make big promises to which they won’t deliver.”

Your BBB offers the following tips for hurricane Irma victims at [www.bbb.org/florida-hurricane-guide](http://www.bbb.org/florida-hurricane-guide):

Before you hire check out the company/contractor at [bbb.org](http://bbb.org). It’s fast, easy and free. Also search the company/contractor online adding the word “Complaint”, “Reviews” or “Scam” after their name for different search results.

Our Disaster Recovery Repairing and Rebuilding Guide provides helpful resources to aid you in your clean-up and repair efforts at <https://www.bbb.org/west-florida/hurricanes/disaster-recovery/>

Visit: <https://www.bbb.org/west-florida/hurricanes/additional-resources/> for disaster recovery information and resources from local, state and federal agencies.

**A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds**

**If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you**

**Agree on a specific time when children should return home**

**Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat**

**Instruct your children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and avoid trick-or-treating alone**

**Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home**

**Teach your children to never enter a stranger's home**

**All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant**

**If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags to make sure they are visible**

**When buying Halloween makeup, make sure it is nontoxic and always test it in a small area first**

**Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation**

*If you haven't removed the hurricane shutters and boards from your home, do it now. That's the advice from fire officials, who say leaving your home shuttered could pose a potentially deadly fire hazard.*

*A fire inside a home with shuttered windows may not be visible until it is too late. It can delay fire-fighters trying to enter a home that is on fire.*



# THINGS TO DO IN TARPON SPRINGS

## Oktoberfest

When Fri, October 6, 10am – 10pm

Where Tarpon Tavern, 21 N Safford Ave, Tarpon Springs

## First Friday Tarpon Springs

When Fri, October 6, 6pm – 10pm

Where West Tarpon Avenue

## Zombie Run

When Sat, October 14, 9am – 10am

Where Tarpon Springs Splash Park, 508 Live Oak St, Tarpon Springs

## Used Tire Collection

When Fri, October 20, 7:00am – 4:30pm

Where Yard Waste Facility 898 S. Levis Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL Description Tires only - NO RIMS

## Trunk or Treat Halloween Bash

When Sat, October 21, 11am – 2pm

Where Tarpon Springs Community Center, South Walton Avenue, Tarpon Springs

## Fall Clean Up

When Sun, October 22, 7:00am – 7:30am

Where Tarpon Springs City Sanitation customers - place items at the curb by 7 AM. Permitted items include furniture, mattresses, household items, carpet and padding bundled in 4' sections, oven, washer, dryer, microwave. Items NOT picked up include: tires, yard waste, propane tanks, air conditioning units, construction material over 4', refrigerators, freezers, electronics or chemicals!



TARPON SPRINGS POLICE DEPT.

444 SOUTH HUEY AVENUE

TARPON SPRINGS, 34689

EMERGENCY # 911

NON EMERGENCY:

(727) 938-2849

CRIME PREVENTION :

(727) 937-8753

WE ARE ON THE WEB AT

[WWW.TSPD.US](http://WWW.TSPD.US)

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