



Orange County, Florida, Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2023

Azalea Park

Safe Neighborhood Association

A newsletter about issues important to you and your neighbors...

Consumer Tips Tips to Avoiding Consumer Fraud

Learn to recognize fraud and how to avoid becoming a victim. Orange County's Consumer Protection Office is on your side to provide the information you need and protection you deserve. A few suggestions:

HIRING A CONTRACTOR

- Be cautious about door-to-door solicitors and advertisements on classified sites like Craigslist.
- Verify the contractor is licensed to perform the work you are hiring them for by calling the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation at 850-487-1395.
- Hire a contractor with a real office, not just a post office box address or residential home address.
- Verify that your contractor complies with state workers' compensation requirements by calling the Florida Division of Workers' Compensation at 800-742-2214.

CREDIT CARD FRAUD

- Keep an eye on your card during the entire transaction.
- Draw a line through any blank spaces on restaurant checks if you are not going to write in a dollar amount
- Don't give out your card number over the phone unless you know the company.
- Immediately call your credit card company if you see any suspicious charges on your statement.
- Many texts and emails about your credit card are phishing scams. If you are unsure about a text or email you receive, call the phone number on the back of your card.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Work-from-home schemes are almost always scams.
- Avoid "pay today" pressure tactics. Take the time to research and compare prices.
- Ask about the refund policy before you buy.
- Always read contracts completely before signing. If you don't understand the term, don't
 rely on the business to explain it to you. You may want to have an attorney review the
 contract.

For more information about the Orange County Consumer Protection Office, email fraudhelp@ocfl.net or call 407-836-3111.

Community Meetings

2nd Tuesday of each month 6:30 p.m. at Christ the King Episcopal Church 26 Willow Dr., Orlando, Florida 32807 June 13, 2023 July 11, 2023 August 15, 2023

Check Nextdoor, www.OCSafeNeighborhoods.net, or <u>apsnapresident@yahoo.com</u> for more information.

Orange County Telephone Numbers

District 3
Commissioner Uribe
407-836-7350

Sheriff's Non-Emergency 407-836-HELP (4357)

9-1-1
Crime Line

407-423-TIPS (8477)

Drug Enforcement 407-521-2400

Seniors First

407-292-0177

Find hurricane and COVID-19 resources at

WWW.OCFL.NET

Orange County
Customer Service
3-1-1



Office of Tenant Services

The Office of Tenant Services acts as a one-stop shop and clearinghouse to address issues of landlord and tenant rights for citizens located within unincorporated Orange County. It focuses on outreach and education for both tenants and landlords by providing information related to renting within Orange County. Visit www.ocfl.net/tenantservices or contact the Office of Tenant Services at TenantServices@ocfl.net or 407-836-RENT or 407-836-7368 for more information.

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER Mayra Uribe, District 3

Dear Neighbors,

Summer has kicked off and one of the great things about summers in Florida is enjoying our pools, lakes, and beaches. Please be prepared to enjoy the water safely. Drownings are 100% avoidable, and Orange County and community partners host ongoing water safety trainings. Visit our water safety tips page for more information:

https://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/DrowningPrevention.aspx

I'm excited to share events that have taken place in our community: Pine Castle Pioneer Days, the Mayor's Jazz in the Park, our community clean-ups, and our spring and summer food drives. I'm proud to announce we will also be hosting our annual back-to-school events on July 29.

I want to invite you to our 4th annual District 3 Community Leadership Conference on June 3 at the Taft Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be included for all attendees. Space is limited, so reserve your spot by emailing district3@ocfl.net

Mayra Urile

Stay safe and have a great summer!

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