FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Utah Division of Consumer Protection Celebrates National Consumer Protection Week

Looking to protect yourself from fraud, identity theft, and scams? Wondering about the best way to improve your credit, shop for a used car, or how to maximize your security online?

The Utah Division of Consumer Protection ("the Division") has information for you during National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW) — March 5 - 11, 2023 — and *any* time of the year. NCPW is a time when government agencies, consumer protection groups, and organizations like ours work together to share information about consumer rights and help people learn to spot, report, and avoid scams.

Here in Utah, the Division will host a live discussion on its social media pages on Thursday, March 9 at 9 am. We'll use this opportunity to discuss the prevalence of scams and fraud in the state as well as what age groups are most affected by it.

"Our organization is here to protect consumers when they've been a victim of deceptive or fraudulent business practices," said Katie Hart, Director of the Utah Division of Consumer Protection. "But when scammers operate outside the law to take advantage of people it can be difficult to get that money back, which makes educational efforts like National Consumer Protection Week so important. We want consumers to know how they can avoid trouble and where they can go to find help if they need it."

Go to <u>consumerprotection.utah.gov</u> to file a consumer complaint or follow the Division on social media for more information. You can also visit ftc.gov/ncpw to learn how to <u>get free consumer education materials</u> and read the latest from consumer protection experts.

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