

294-19
(LE)

RESOLUTION NO. -2019

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE NASSAU COUNTY COMMISSION TO COMBAT
SENIOR CITIZEN IDENTITY THEFTS, FRAUDS AND SCAMS

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Majority Counsel

2019 AUG 12 P 5:21

NASSAU COUNTY
CLERK OF THE BOARD

WHEREAS the Nassau County Police Department has reported that phone scams and fraud are dramatically on the rise; and

WHEREAS it has been reported that people attempting to commit fraud have been employing sophisticated phone systems that make it appear that the phone call is originating from a legitimate source such as the Internal Revenue Service or a credit card provider; and

WHEREAS these phone scams and frauds are increasingly targeting senior citizens; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government has calculated that these frauds and scams have led to the theft of billions of dollars from seniors; and

WHEREAS the FBI reports that senior citizens are more likely to be targets of fraud and scams because they are more likely to own their own home, have a good to excellent credit ratings, or have savings accounts; and

WHEREAS the FBI reports that the true extent of the fraud and scams on senior citizens is unknown because older victims are less likely to report fraud because they may not recognize that they have been scammed, do not know who to report the scam to and some are too ashamed to admit that they have been the victim of fraud; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams is hereby established; and be it further

RESOLVED, the mission of the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams is to provide a written report (the "report") containing analysis and recommendations for addressing the unmet needs for protecting Senior Citizens from fraud, theft and scams including:

- (i) An assessment of the types of frauds perpetrated on senior citizens;

- (ii) An analysis of the current laws protecting senior citizens from fraud, theft and scams and whether these laws should be strengthened and whether new laws are needed for further protection;
- (iii) An examination of funding sources available for community outreach to seniors and senior citizen organizations to increase education, prevention and reporting of thefts, scams and frauds perpetrated against seniors; and
- (iv) Recommendations for a public awareness campaign to educate and protect vulnerable seniors and end the stigmatization that victims of fraud, theft and scams often face; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams shall coordinate with other agencies, government bodies, and non-governmental organizations; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams shall evaluate existing County funds to identify at least \$250,000 in County funding to be allocated towards the prevention and prosecution of ending senior citizen theft, fraud and scams, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams shall include:

1. A representative from the Nassau County Department of Human Services Office of the Aging
2. A representative from the Nassau County District Attorney's Office
3. A representative from the Nassau County Police Department
4. A representative from the Department of Social Services
5. A representative from the County Attorney's Office
6. Two nominees appointed at the direction of the County Executive one of whom will act as co-chair of the Commission
7. Two nominees appointed at the direction of the Presiding Officer one of whom will act as co-chair of the Commission
8. Two nominees appointed at the direction of the Minority Leader; and be it further

RESOLVED the County Executive shall submit the names of representatives from the County Attorney, the Police Department, from Social Services, and from the Department of Human Services Office of the Aging to the Clerk of the Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Nassau District Attorney shall submit the name of their representative to the Commission to the Clerk of the Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED within thirty days of its enactment, all members must be appointed by the terms of this resolution, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Nassau Commission to Combat Senior Citizen Theft, Fraud and Scams shall issue their report no later than October 15, 2019 and the 15th day of October every year thereafter.