



NEWS RELEASE

Marty J. Jackley
South Dakota Attorney General

Charles McGuigan
Chief Deputy Attorney General

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE : Tuesday, November 24, 2015
CONTACT: Sara Rabern (605)773-3215

Attorney General Jackley Provides Holiday Shopping Tips

PIERRE, S.D – The holiday shopping season begins earlier each year and this year is no exception with the lure of pre-Black Friday deals and advertisements filled with one-of-a kind specials. The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division is again encouraging consumers to shop with care this holiday season.

Tips on Holiday Shopping:

- Check the refund and return policies for restrictions and exceptions
- When buying gift cards, check for fees and expiration dates that apply
- Read the fine print
- Double check delivery dates
- Review warranties
- Compare prices
- Check shipping and handling fees

Along with those traditional shopping methods consumers also need to proceed with caution when dealing with online retailers.

Online Shopping Tips:

- Consumers using the internet to find the perfect gift should avoid using email links. These links can appear to be from a known business, but may be coming from a different company altogether
- Use credit cards for online purchases. If there is a problem with the purchase it is much easier to dispute the charges
- Be leery of businesses who are offering deep discounts. If it sounds too good to true, then it likely is, so shop with reputable sellers

Smartphone Shopping Tips:

- Be sure your computer and mobile devices are current with all software updates
- Be cautious of social media scams including fake Twitter and Facebook pages. Stick to the sites that you are familiar with and do not click on unfamiliar links
- Research price comparison apps. There are many malicious mobile apps just ready to be downloaded
- Do not download apps from unknown sources

If you have any additional questions, contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at 1-800-300-1986 or consumerhelp@state.sd.us

