

# NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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December 1, 2008

Release #08-104

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SCDCA RETURNS TO PACOLET ON DECEMBER 3, 2008

**Columbia, SC...** ...The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) will visit the Pacolet community on Wednesday, December 3, 2008, to handle consumer complaints and questions. Regional SCDCA outreach coordinator Patty Guthrie will pay a visit to the Pacolet branch of the Spartanburg County Public Library. Consumers may come with questions or complaints regarding a business between 1:00 pm and 3:00 p.m. Individuals are encouraged to bring documentation with them.

Ms. Guthrie will have additional materials available on telephone scams. The Department has received a large number of phone calls reporting various types of scams. Savvy consumers have identified the calls as scams by the following red flags: callers asking for sensitive information, insisting on a limited time offer, and using other high-pressure tactics. Unfortunately, many telephone scams have become quite sophisticated and undecipherable from legitimate phone calls. "While we can't tell the consumer exactly what a telephone scammer will or won't say, we can share with them a lot of the warning signs to prevent personal information or finances from ending up in the wrong hands," said Guthrie.

The Department will continue to visit the Pacolet community on a regular basis. Locations will be announced monthly. The Department services the entire state via telephone and online help.

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#### About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers. Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit [www.sconsumer.gov](http://www.sconsumer.gov).

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Specific questions and concerns from the Pacolet community may be addressed to Patty Guthrie. Appointments are available upon request. Ms. Guthrie may be reached at 864.490.3267.

This month's visit has been made possible through a collaborative effort with the Pacolet Library and librarian Chris Rogers.

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