



The Delaware Department of Justice, Consumer Protection Unit – often called “CPU” for short – thanks all veterans and their families for this opportunity to remind consumers of the types of scams – some targeted specifically to veterans – that can affect them and to provide contact information to report suspicious activity.

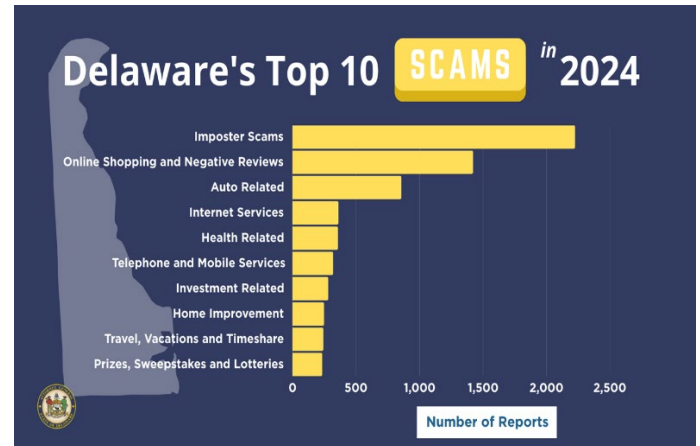
Scammers who target veterans often use tactics that leverage a veterans’ eligibility for a variety of benefits through the VA. Here are some common scams:

“**Claims Sharks**” attempt to charge high fees - often for services that are otherwise available to veterans free of charge – and avoid the laws and regulations in place that give accreditation through the VA Office of General Counsel to those who provide claims services. These regulations also prohibit charging a fee for an initial application. Often, unscrupulous actors will advertise false expedited processing times, or higher award rates.

“**Pension Poaching**” often targets older Veterans and attempts to lure Veterans into moving assets into annuities or trusts with overstated or false claims of eligibility for VA benefits. Often, these scammers steal personal information such as social security numbers and bank accounts during the process.

Veterans can also be targeted by variations of common civilian consumer scams. “**Imposter scams**” were the #1 scam in Delaware for 2024. Bad actors email, call or mail veterans, pretending to be an official governmental agency – often using forms, language and contact information that look “official” – all in an attempt to have the veteran send money, or to obtain a veteran’s personal identification information for nefarious purposes.

Here is the full list of Delaware’s top 2024 scams:



Need Help or Want to Report Fraud?
Contact the Delaware Department of Justice.



By calling: (800) 220-5424



By emailing:

Consumer.Protection@Delaware.gov



By filling out a complaint:

<https://attorneygeneral.delaware.gov/fraud/cmu/complaint/>



Learn more about the Consumer Fraud Division by visiting:

<https://attorneygeneral.delaware.gov/fraud/>

Quick Links to Stay Protected

VA Website:

<https://benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/fraud-prevention.asp>

VSAFE is a program created to support Veterans, service members, and their families with scam and fraud prevention:
www.VSAFE.gov