



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'
RUNDOWN
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Floridians,

Although it's late in the 2020 Hurricane Season, Floridians cannot let their guard down. [Tropical Depression Eta](#) is moving towards South Florida and I'm urging residents in the projected path of this storm to monitor weather reports closely and prepare now. Eta is projected to bring heavy rain, wind, and probable flooding to communities in the Florida Keys and Southwest Florida by this weekend. As we've seen in the past, storms can change course and strengthen quickly, leaving little to no time to prepare so now is the time to ensure your disaster plan is in place. Florida residents should monitor the latest weather reports and visit [PrepareFL.com](#) now for important disaster preparedness resources to ensure you can recover quickly. Don't wait until landfall is imminent, it may be too late.



Following recently released [data](#) from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) showing an increase in social media related scam reports during the COVID-19 pandemic, this week I also warned all Floridians to protect their personal information from fraudsters. According to the information, the amount of complaints regarding scams that originated on social media more than tripled in the last twelve months and saw a significant uptick last spring during the peak of the pandemic.

Whether you are online shopping or connecting with friends and family on social media, the best way to protect yourself from being a victim of fraud is to know cybercriminals' tricks, which can help to identify a potential scam before it happens. If you feel yourself or a loved one is a victim of fraud, report it immediately at FraudFreeFlorida.com

Stay safe and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

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