

Floridians,

Today, I released the following <u>video message</u> ahead of the 20th Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States. Let us continue to pray for the families who were affected by this unthinkable tragedy and for our first responders who continue to selflessly serve our communities in times of their greatest need.



On Thursday, I recognized September as <u>National College Savings Month</u> and encouraged Floridians to start saving now for their child's future. During College Savings Month, I hope that Floridians will take this opportunity to explore all of the available resources to help plan for their child's future. It's never too early or too late to start preparing for college expenses. Florida Prepaid offers Floridians a great opportunity to lock in future college costs for less. I encourage all Floridians to consider Florida Prepaid today and to research your options at <u>MyFloridaPrepaid.com</u>.

Lastly, I urged Floridians to be on the lookout for <u>post-disaster related scams</u>. Unfortunately, we know too well that after a hurricane hits, we see bad actors looking to make a quick buck. Always verify the license of contractors prior to hiring them to ensure they are registered to conduct business in Florida. Be wary of offers for post-storm repairs or services that require a cash payment. Also, make sure to guard your personal information closely and be on the look-out for charity related scams. If you or a loved one believes you have fallen victim to a post-storm scam, report it immediately at <u>FraudFreeFlorida.com</u>.

As we reflect on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 this weekend, please thank a first responder for their tireless service to our communities and the great state of Florida.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Patronis Chief Financial Officer State of Florida







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