

KEEPIN' IT



# real

ISSUE 5 | APRIL. 2023



Advocating  
Against Romance  
Scammers

## Nothing But Great News!

### Great Meetings! Better Future!

The past few months have brought such great opportunity to the world of online romance scams. In this newsletter we are excited to talk about our latest advocating venture in Washington D.C., how AARS has become one of the expert advocating groups for #OperationShamrock, and the announcement of October 3 officially becoming World Romance Scam Prevention Day through National Day Archives. .

It's all exciting news, so sit back and enjoy the latest that so many have wished for in the realm of online romance scams.



## CONTENTS

- 1 Great Meetings! Better Future!
- 2 How 'Bout Them Meetings...
- 3 AARS Provides
- 4 Meet our board of director!
- 5 World Romance Scam Prevention Day
- 6 #Operationshamrock
- 7 New Tools to Catch Those Scammers!

DONATE



ADVOCATINGFORU.COM

ESTABLISHED IN 2016.

EIN: 85-0518427

# Going Strong



## HOW 'BOUT THEM MEETINGS...

On March 22, 23, Co-founders of AARS Ret. Col. Bryan Denny and Kathy Waters headed to DC for their fifth time to educate lawmakers on the need for safer platforms and how the scams affect not only their constituents but the entire world. We met with the legislative staffs of Senator Padilla, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Durbin. On the final day we met with Congressman Valadeo's office. Congressman Valadeo made a point to introduce himself to Bryan and Kathy and speak from a personal standpoint of how a similar scam affected his family.

His legislative staff is very interested in moving forward with a bill on safer platforms and we were thrilled to help educate on the matter and really show the need for new laws.

Also during the visit, we had the opportunity to meet with Donna Gregory, Unit Chief of the Internet Crimes Complaint Center (IC3). Ms. Gregory was insightful on the reporting process and was very interested in the work we do and the guidance we are able to provide. The meeting was approximately an hour and a half of solid scam fighting talk! It was fantastic!

If you would like to read the entire summary of our meetings, and others we had the privilege of meeting, please see our website for the full details and more photos.



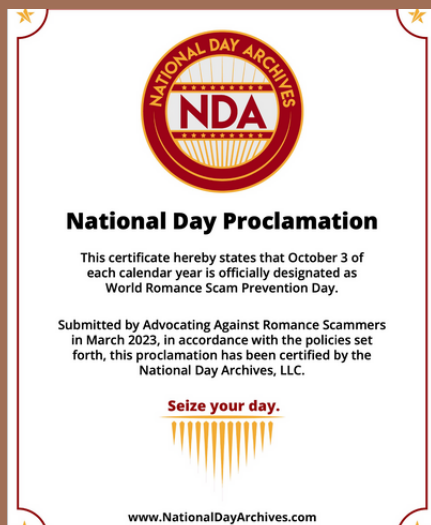
## AARS WEBISTE PROVIDES...

1. Where to report a romance scam
2. Educational Resources
3. Social Media safety tips
4. How to identify a romance scammer
5. Stories from Identity Theft Victims
6. The latest advocating from AARS
7. Photo library of pictures used in scams
8. Option of how you can help the cause

Check us out and download your free 1 page "help sheet" on romance scams!



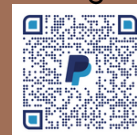
## WORLD ROMANCE SCAM PREVENTION DAY!



### OCTOBER 3, 2023

October 3 has officially been named World Romance Scam Prevention Day through National Day Archive! We are excited to start promoting the day, gathering supporters, and raising money to make this not just successful in educating all but law changing for the safety of our platforms. We want to reach millions around the world, if not billions! More details to come!

If you would like to help fund the project or future projects AARS is involved in, please go to our website or use the QR code provided here!



DONATE



ADVOCATINGFORU.COM  
ESTABLISHED IN 2016 EIN: 85-0518427

# #Operationshamrock

## COMING TOGETHER AS ONE

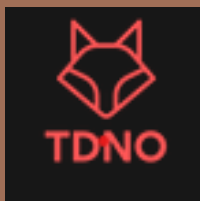
Let's talk about #operationshamrock! Have you heard of it yet, because if you haven't you are about to be thrilled of what is coming down the pike! Operation Shamrock is a collaboration of law enforcement, social media companies, banks, advocates, diplomats, blockchain analytics firms and many more to help bring the attention to the subject of Pig Butchering, and make people recognize just how destructive and massive this problem is. Initiated by Ms. Erin West, a Santa Clara Prosecuting Attorney specializing in crypto currency scams, she has formed a project with the hopes of helping hundreds of thousands, if not millions! Ms. West's motto for #Operationshamrock: Educate. Seize. Disrupt.

As mentioned in the prior newsletter, Pig Butchering is the combination of a romance scam and investment scam resulting in some of the largest losses from scams known to date. If there's anyway to make heads turn, it's getting the experts of a topic and showing, telling, and shouting the facts! Stay tuned for updates as we will be posting all we can on social media and our website!



Pictured: Erin West, Cybercrime and Crypto Prosecutor, REACT Task Force, Santa Clara County

Meet Erin West! The amazing go-getter, force of nature, good hearted Attorney/Advocate that is working hard every day to educate on Pig Butchering and crypto scams! Ms. West is the founder of #operationshamrock and the robust link to so many of us joining forces in this project!



### GREAT NEW TOOLS!

This past month we were introduced to a few new tools that can help people combat scammers.

The first tool brought to AARS's attention was the by the The Dark Night Online (TDNO). They provide a service ran by Facecheck.ID that has the ability to read a photo with the potential of finding the same person throughout the world wide web. This tool can help see if the researched photo has been used under different names, accounts or even in educating others on scams.

The second tool we had the privilege to try was Scam Rangers message verification. This exciting new option gives you the opportunity to plug in a message you think may be sent by a scammer to verify if the message is a high, medium, or low risk for scamming.

Keep in mind, to determine a scam, never use just one way to verify. But these tools are a great start!

DONATE



ADVOCATINGFORU.COM  
ESTABLISHED IN 2016 EIN: 85-0518427