

ISSUE 9 JAN-MARCH 2024

What's in store for 2024!

Whose Voice? "MY VOICE" Campaign!

This coming year is going to be starting off with a bang! Starting February 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2024 AARS will be launching the "MY VOICE" Campaign. This will be a card that any and every romance scam victim can fill out, remain anonymous, and get their voice heard without the stigmas that keep so many from reporting. There are a few reasons AARS chose to move forward with this campaign:

- Gives victims voice for themselves, others, and for lawmakers to hear.
- A way for victims to feel safe from blame and stigmas associated with online romance scams.
- To help other romance scam victims past, present, and future know there is support understanding without judgment.

- epidemic Make the throughout the world for the devastation it has on individuals.
- Make it clear that this is not just a financial crime, but it is emotional, psychological, sexual, and financial abuse.



"MY VOICE" cards will be documented and delivered by the team at AARS. Whether it's in person or through the postal service, each card will be delivered to the appropriate lawmakers and/or cybercrime enforcement agencies in every country AARS has a card for. For more information or if you would like to support the cause, please visit advocatingforu.com protectingheartsday.com.

<u>Advocating</u>

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A New Tool for You!

Your Guide After a Romance Scam

In December, AARS created a two-page tool for those seeking guidance after a romance scam. The form provides a post scam checklist of what to do after the scam, who to contact, where to find support and additional education. The guide can help victims prepare for reporting and direct them to the appropriate help needed to begin the healing process. Often, the trauma one endures during a romance scam can make it significantly difficult to process next steps once the scam is divulged. This guide was made to give that extra support.

This form has been shared with fraud experts, law enforcement, and legislative directors. The 2 pager can be found on the AARS website and can be downloaded as a PDF file for the usable links provided.





AARS WEBSITE PROVIDES...

- 1. Where to report a romance scam
- 2. Educational Resources
- 3. Social Media safety tips
- 4. How to identity 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!







Throughout the previous year, AARS has gratefully received support from numerous donors, each contributing to our mission in countering romance fraud. Among these benefactors, there was one individual who stood out for his exceptional contributions. Mr. Adam Levin has been a prominent figure in the anti-fraud industry for several years and continues to be an active participant. We are deeply honored to have his unwavering support and trust in our organization. Mr. Levin's efforts have been instrumental in providing education and support to those seeking AARS's assistance. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Levin for his contributions to cybersecurity and his belief in our organization's mission. We highly recommend checking out "What the Hack" with Adam Levin for those who haven't already.











A DUO NO SCAMMER WANTS TO FACE!

ANNA AND CECILIE TEAM UP

There are several different avenues to become a victim of romance fraud. There's those who are scammed online, intertwined with a different scam such as money investments, and there are those who are scammed by an in-person fraudster. This was the case for both U.K. women Anna Rose and Cecilie Fjelhoy. Both involved in a relationship that ended in the realization they were being emotionally manipulated and financially defrauded by someone they grew to have feelings for. Anna started her advocacy Catch the Catfish then later joined forces with Cecilie to create a site where romance scammed victims can also go and seek additional information, guidance, and support.

The Love Said duo recently spoke in front of the House of Commons Committee about the issues romance fraud victims face, the experience of reporting the crime and the outcomes thereafter.

Although the ladies are based in the U.K. they do support victims globally. They are close friends to AARS, major supporters of World Romance Scam Prevention Day, trusted organization registered in the "MY VOICE" Campaign! To visit their sites, click on the links here





Pictured: Cecilie Fjelhoy and Anna Rose



A PARTNERSHIP. SAME GOALS. GREAT MATCH



Three incredible cybercrime experts run a new business in town, and they're not holding any punches when it comes to protecting our online safety. Ronnie Tokazowski, Gary Warner, and Robin Pugh launched Intelligence For Good (I4G) in 2023, a not-for-profit that focuses on the disruption of internet crimes.

According to the Intelligence For Good website, they are not only focused on "aiding victims but also disrupting the operations of digital wrongdoers, prosecuting their actions, and facilitating the recovery of losses." AARS has been working with I4G since its launch by guiding victims to appropriate resources and offering one-on-one support to victims and their loved ones during one of their most difficult times.

Keep your eyes out these next few months for I4G's weekly series "Twenty Targets for Takedown". For more information on the series, click here, and to check out what this remarkable new group is and will be doing, click on the I4G logo!



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