

# Caller offering grant for fee probably a scam artist

Dear Attorney General Kline:  
My husband and I have been thinking about starting our own small business and have been considering a variety of funding options.

I have recently received both phone calls and e-mail messages from a group claiming to represent the federal government and offering to help me get a grant for our business.

I've been asked to send a required processing fee to secure this substantial grant, but I'm leery about doing this. Am I right to be concerned?

Dear Kansas Consumer:  
You should definitely be concerned and skeptical about this offer. Once again, it appears that con artists claiming to assist the federal government in distributing grant



phill  
kline

• attorney general

money are targeting Kansas consumers.

The "grant money" scam seeks to sell you material that you can get for free. Scam artists play upon the vulnerabilities of those they target.

In the "grant money" scam, the unscrupulous individual informs the potential victim that he or she has been deemed eligible to receive a "free government grant."

Screening is important to make this scam work, so the con artist often seeks out individuals who

need money for a project like a small business start-up that could, conceivably, be funded through some sort of a loan or grant.

The victim is then told that all they need to do to become eligible for the grant is to give their credit card or bank account information to the grant processor. The scam artist claims this information is necessary so that a "one time processing fee" can be debited, promising that soon thereafter a large amount of federal grant money will be transferred into their account.

While the money is promptly removed from the victim's account, the federal monies never arrive. What is often delivered instead is a

catalog with a list of available grants. The victim is left to explain to his or her bank or credit card company that what was delivered was in no way what was promised.

If you are serious about researching federal grants, you do not need to pay for the information because it is readily available for free! The federal government's General Service Organization publishes a catalog of government assistance programs entitled the "Federal Domestic Assistance" catalog.

This publication lists all service programs funded by federal agencies and sets forth the criteria for eligibility.

This catalog may be viewed online by going to: <http://www.gsa.gov/fdac>.

What you will learn there is that the federal government administers

very few grants directly to individuals. Almost all are first sent to local or state organizations. Anyone representing themselves as an agent of the federal government helping individuals get grant money should be considered to be a con artist.

If you are ever tempted by the "government grant" or other such scams, here are some tips to remember:

1. Any time you are asked to pay money to receive a gift, wire transfer money to become a millionaire or buy an item in order to become eligible for a prize, you should just say "no."

2. Never give your credit card or bank account information to anyone who calls you over the telephone.

3. It is good to enroll your telephone numbers on the Federal No-

Call list. This may be done by calling 888-382-1222. If anyone calls to sell you something three months after you have so registered on the No Call list, then assume that they are up to no good and turn them in to my Consumer Protection Division.

Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions.

For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Second Floor, Topeka, Kan. 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

## matters of record

### Goodland Police

The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:  
**Jan. 1** — 8:27 a.m. 608 E. 2nd Roy Elder reported a theft.  
**Jan. 2** — 1713 Syracuse Ave. Louis Aguilar reported phone harassment.

### District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:  
**Feb. 28** — Kimberly D. Bryant fines reinstated \$132.  
**March 25** — Juan Medel Enriquez fines reinstated \$186 for speeding and \$20 for no child restraint.  
**April 17** — Christopher S. Peplin fines reinstated \$150 for speeding.  
**May 27** — Rudy R. Morris fines reinstated \$114 for speeding.  
**July 28** — Michael Philpott fines reinstated \$159 for speeding.  
**Sept. 4** — Arturo Fernandez fined \$360 for improper parking.  
**Sept. 24** — Lori L. Anadon fined \$126 for speeding.  
**Oct. 5** — Ismael Enriquez fined \$144 for speeding.  
**Oct. 6** — Allegra Adolf fined \$120 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.  
**Oct. 12** — James B. Campbell Jr. fined \$210 for motor carrier safety rules and regulations.  
**Oct. 16** — Bobby L. Prince fined \$150 for speeding.  
**Oct. 22** — Cameron J. Brawner fined \$150 for speeding.  
**Oct. 23** — Leslie E. Hogan fined \$150 for speeding.  
**Oct. 24** — Jessica A. Pierce fined \$159 for speeding.  
**Oct. 28** — Basilio M. Cano III fined \$120 for speeding.  
**Oct. 30** — Tara J. Davis fined \$186 for speeding.  
**Nov. 4** — Erika S. Sims fined \$177 for speeding.  
**Nov. 6** — Raul M. Zarazua fined \$132 for speeding.  
**Nov. 10** — Davis W. Gast fined \$114 for speeding.  
Kelly P. Wilson fined \$120 for speeding.  
**Nov. 11** — Noah J. Casella fined

\$132 for speeding.

Andrew E. Finney fined \$204 for speeding.

Timothy J. Hupe fined \$138 for speeding.

John D. Querry fined \$120 for speeding.

**Nov. 12** — Larry D. Armour fined \$90 for speeding.

**Nov. 13** — Jozell Forman fined \$150 for speeding.

**Nov. 14** — Dan G. Leili fined \$114 for speeding.

Matthew G. Youkey fined \$121 for speeding.

**Nov. 15** — Marianne W. Jacobs fined \$114 for speeding.

**Nov. 17** — Santto M. Cheramie III fined \$114 for speeding.

Armando C. Delgado fined \$138 for speeding.

Gregory D. Huffman fined \$185 for over weight limits on wheels and axles.

**Nov. 19** — Darrell E. Nulan fined \$168 for speeding.

**Nov. 20** — Charles L. Foster fined \$90 for speeding.

Audrea M. Hansen fined \$195 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

James C. Knight fined \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

Patricia E. Knight fined \$96 for speeding and \$20 for no child restraint.

Daniel J. Ross fined \$126 for improper parking.

**Nov. 21** — Michael L. Backe fined \$114 for speeding.

Claire M. Caro fined \$138 for speeding.

Justin A. Clinton fined \$126 for speeding.

Valerie L. Villanueva fined \$159 for speeding.

Lori J. Wagner fined \$168 for speeding.

**Nov. 23** — Ellen Barndsdatino fined \$108 for speeding.

Drake A. Byard fined \$126 for improper parking.

Timothy M. Castilleja fined \$186 for speeding.

William B. Honn fined \$90 for speeding.

Yockey L. Jones fined \$90 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a

seat belt.

Brian C. Kirby fined \$168 for speeding.

Betsy G. Long fined \$114 for speeding.

Matthew R. Moffett fined \$90 for speeding.

David M. Russell fined \$120 for speeding.

Benjamin S. Vanfossen fined \$120 for speeding.

**Nov. 24** — Lawrence A. Wilson fined \$168 for speeding.

**Nov. 25** — Paul B. Allee fined \$120 for speeding.

Manuel Banuelos fined \$60 for driving without a license, \$20 no child restraint and \$120 for speeding.

Julie A. Bertolino fined \$114 for speeding.

Matthew R. Blackwell fined \$120 for speeding.

Anabel G. Cisneros fined \$102 for speeding, \$10 for no seat belts and \$20 no child restraint.

Margarita T. Diaz fined \$10 for not wearing seat belts.

Kevin T. Fitzgibbon fined \$360 for driving while suspended; 1st conviction, \$300 for no liability insurance, \$60 for unlawful acts with vehicle and \$60 for no transfer of ownership of vehicles.

Jeremy R. Fresquez fined \$144 for speeding.

Tracy L. Robinson fined \$150 for speeding.

Roy Tillie fined \$192 for speeding.

**Nov. 26** — Carol E. Baker fined \$159 for speeding.

Allen L. Corkill fined \$132 for speeding.

Joseph L. Dennis fined \$126 for speeding.

Darell D. Lister fined \$159 for improper parking.

J. W. Powers fined \$132 for improper parking.

Jennifer E. Pratt fined \$159 for improper parking.

**Nov. 27** — Richard Holstein III A\$126 for improper parking and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

**Dec. 3** — Thomas D. Call fined \$126 for speeding.

Dennis D. Oconnor fined \$108 for speeding.

Darren M. Way fined \$138 for speeding.

**Dec. 4** — Destiny R. Rogers fined \$114 for speeding.

**Dec. 5** — James Patrick Fitzgerald fined \$135 for motor carrier; insurance for vehicles without Kansas motor carrier permits.

**Dec. 7** — Kathryn L. Perlman fined \$150 for speeding.

**Dec. 8** — David L. Hood Jr. fined \$168 for speeding.

Carroll Gene Stelzer fined \$270 for over weight limits on wheels and axles.

**Dec. 9** — Gary A. Bare fined \$150 for speeding.

Wayne L. Burke fined \$114 for speeding.

Glenn J. Mears was fined \$90 for speeding and \$10 for not wearing a seat belt.

Laura D. Johnson-Ledoux fined \$138 for speeding.

Amy Munnis fined \$150 for speeding.

Lisa R. Sulentic was fined \$120 for speeding.

**Dec. 12** — Richard L. Davis fined \$120 for improper driving on a laned roadway.

**Dec. 13** — Ernest T. Mashburn fined \$120 for speeding.

## public notice

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Evelyn Armstrong, Deceased

Case No. 05PR16

### NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this Court by Robert L. Armstrong, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of Evelyn Armstrong, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will and "Valid Settlement Agreement" be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the court find the allowances requested for attorneys and guardian ad litem fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts, the Petitioner be finally discharged from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January, 31, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the district court, Goodland, Sherman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

Robert L. Armstrong  
Administrator

Zuspann & Zuspann, P.A.  
1015 Center  
P.O. Box 968  
Goodland, Kansas 67735-0968  
Phone: (785) 899-6555  
Attorneys for Administrator

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Friday, January 6, 13 and 20, 2006.

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899-2338

### ORDINANCE NO. 1542

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SHERMAN COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER; PRESCRIBING THE PROVISION FOR THE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF THE CENTER; AND PROVIDING FOR THE COSTS OF THE EXPENSE OF OPERATION OF THE CENTER.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS:

Section 1. The City of Goodland, Kansas, hereby declares that it deems it necessary and expedient to enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement with Sherman County, Kansas, for the purpose of providing for the establishment of Sherman County Communications Center; prescribing the provision for the Director and Staff of the Center; and providing for the costs of the expense of operation of the Center.

Section 2. The Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Goodland, Kansas, are hereby authorized to execute an agreement of interlocal cooperation presented to the Commission on the 3rd day of January, 2006, as signed by the Sherman County Commission on December 30th, 2005, between Sherman County, Kansas, and the City of Goodland, Kansas, and said agreement and all the provisions therein contained are hereby approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of the City of Goodland, Kansas, this 3rd day of January, 2006.

David Daniels,  
Vice Mayor  
City of Goodland, Kansas

ATTEST:  
Mary P. Volk,  
City Clerk  
City of Goodland, Kansas

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Friday, January 6, 2006.

### Resolution 05-18

A RESOLUTION ALLOWING SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SHERMAN COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER; PRESCRIBING THE PROVISION FOR THE DIRECTOR AND STAFF OF THE CENTER; AND PROVIDING FOR THE COSTS OF THE EXPENSE OF OPERATION OF THE CENTER.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS:

Section 1. The County of Sherman, Kansas, hereby declares that it deems it necessary and expedient to enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement with the City of Goodland, Kansas, for the purpose of providing for the establishment of Sherman County Communications Center; prescribing the provision for the Director and Staff of the Center; and providing for the costs of the expense of operation of the Center.

Section 2. The Chairman and County Clerk of Sherman County, Kansas, are hereby authorized to execute an agreement of interlocal cooperation presented to be approved on the 30th day of December, 2005, and then to be presented to the Commissioners of the City of Goodland, Kansas, for their approval on the 3rd day of January, 2006, as signed by the Sherman County Commission on December 30, 2005, between Sherman County, Kansas, and the City of Goodland, Kansas, and all provisions therein contained are hereby approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Commissioners of Sherman County, Kansas, this 30th day of December, 2005.

SHERMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mitch Tiede,  
Chairman

Attest:  
Janet R. Rumpel,  
County Clerk

Published in The Goodland Star-News on January 6, 2006.

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Bankwest of Kansas

Plaintiff.

vs.

James Cole Miller and Kathryn Marie Miller, et al.

Defendants.

Case No 05C19  
Court Number:  
Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

### Notice Of Sale

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of the district Court of Sherman County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Sherman County, Kansas, will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the Front Door of the Courthouse at Goodland, Sherman County, Kansas, on January 17, 2006, at 10:00 AM, the following real estate:

**All of Lots 1 through 32, the vacated alleys between said Lots, and 1/2 of the vacated adjacent Thomas Avenue, all in Block 10, in the original Town of Ruleton, Sherman County, Kansas, according to the recorded Plat thereof, commonly known as 6460 Ruleton Ave, Goodland, KS 67735 (the "Property")**

to satisfy the judgment in the above-entitled case. The sale is to be made without appraisal and subject to the redemption period as provided by law, and further subject to the approval of the Court. For more information, visit [www.South-law.com](http://www.South-law.com).

Kevin Butts, Sheriff  
Sherman County, Kansas

SOUTH & ASSOCIATES  
Kirsten G. Stroehmann (KS #10551)  
4600 Madison, Suite 801  
Kansas City, Missouri 64112  
(816) 300-7800  
(816) 300-7899 (Fax)  
Attorneys for Plaintiff (47832)

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Friday, December 23, 30, 2005 and January 6, 2006

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Colby/Surrounding Area Customer Service Managers

Due to tremendous growth  
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**Schwan's Home Service, Inc.**  
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