



## OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

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### For Immediate Release

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#### MRFC Provide Mitigation Tips for ATM Users

The Mariana Regional Fusion Center (MRFC) continues to monitor any threats and hazards to the region. In light of the recent discovery of more ATM skimming devices and subsequent investigation being conducted by local and federal law enforcement officers, the MRFC advises the community to be alert for similar devices and their potential impact on consumers, businesses, and financial institutions.

The MRFC are in coordination with all appropriate stakeholders to include local financial institutions, local law enforcement, federal, and local private sector entities to monitor and assess situations such as ATM skimming.

Residents and visitors are advised to practice the following open source tips to avoid ATM skimmers:

- Use ATMs from your banking institution, preferably ATMs that are in secured access rooms for bank members that have 24/7 CCTV systems.
- For ATMs, inspect the device. Look for uneven colors or loose PIN pads and tug on the card slot before inserting your card.
- Avoid paying for gas at the pump; pay inside and with cash when possible.
- Check the machine for tampering. The presence of scratches, tape, or adhesive residue could indicate a fraudulent device.
- Avoid gas pumps where the tamper-safe security seal affixed to the pump has been broken or security tape appears fake or out of place.
- Look at other nearby gas pumps or ATM card readers to see if they match the one you are using.
- Look above and around the keypad for suspicious cameras/miniature cameras.
- Place your hand over the keypad when entering your PIN.
- It is advisable to monitor financial statements for fraudulent activity frequently.
- While processing an ATM financial transaction and a skimmer device is discovered, report it to local law enforcement immediately.
- Report any fraudulent credit card activity to the card issuing agency

If you see suspicious activity, relating to the current events, report them to local law enforcement and the MRFC online at [mlrin.org](http://mlrin.org) or email [teammrhc@mlrin.org](mailto:teammrhc@mlrin.org) or call 475-0400/1.

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