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**SP SOUTH PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

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Through Anson Advantage, you can complete short-term workforce training programs for **FREE**, or reduce the cost of your two-year college degree.

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



## Grow Your Future: Learn About South Piedmont's New Agribusiness Program During Aug. 6 Event

This is a release from South Piedmont Community College:

South Piedmont Community College invites the community to a free virtual webinar on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at 6 p.m., to learn more about our new Agribusiness Certificate launching this fall. Participants in the webinar will be entered to win a free drone.

This engaging session will explore how the program equips students with the skills needed to thrive in today's evolving agricultural economy. Attendees will hear directly from faculty and industry experts about:

- What the Agribusiness Certificate includes
  - How the program prepares students for roles in farm management, Agri-Technology, and sustainable food systems
  - The growing demand for skilled professionals in agriculture and rural development
- South Piedmont's Agribusiness Certificate blends practical training in agricultural production, business management, and emerging technologies. Designed in collaboration with local industry leaders, the program supports workforce development across Anson and Union counties - and beyond.

Whether you're a high school graduate, career changer, or working professional, this webinar offers a chance to discover how agribusiness training can open doors to meaningful, in-demand careers. Plus, attendees will learn about financial aid options and flexible course formats.

Register now at [agribusiness.info.spcc.edu](https://agribusiness.info.spcc.edu) to receive your Microsoft Teams link, event details, and did we mention - be entered to win a free drone!



## Sheriff Issues Scam Alert

Sheriff Scott Howell warns that local residents are being targeted by several fraudulent phone scams that claim:

1. YOU MISSED JURY DUTY, and you must pay immediately or face arrest.
2. THERE IS AN OUTSTANDING WARRANT for serious charges such as armed robbery or sexual offenses, requiring payment over the phone to avoid arrest.
3. A LOVED ONE IS IN JAIL, and you can pay a partial bond over the phone to get them out.

These are ALL SCAMS!

The Sheriff's office WILL NOT:

- Call you and threaten arrest over the phone
- Demand Payments via phone, gift cards, wire transfers, or crypto.
- Email or call you to resolve warrants.

A deputy from the Anson County Sheriff's Office will show up and speak with you directly. Legal notices and arrest warrants are always SERVED IN PERSON.

If you receive such a call HANG UP IMMEDIATELY, and contact the Anson County Sheriff's Office at 704-694-4188.

### Additional Scam Release from the Sheriff

#### SCAM ALERT: Stay Vigilant - Scammers Are Getting CLEVER

Scammers are becoming increasingly knowledgeable about local agencies and law enforcement. They research and use the names of real local officials such as the sheriff and deputies - to make their schemes more convincing. This level of detail can make it seem like you have legitimate outstanding warrants, prompting you to follow their instructions, including paying money.

Recently, a local resident received what appeared to be an official copy of a warrant from these scammers. They even went as far as personalizing it, typing the resident's name into the "Defendant" line, adding to the illusion of legitimacy.

With today's advanced technology, scammers can quickly create and customize realistic-looking documents that are designed to scare and deceive.

#### Sheriff Howell urges everyone:

- **Hang up the phone immediately** if you receive one of these calls.
- **Do NOT engage in conversation.** The more you listen, the more likely you are to fall victim.
- If they begin naming actual local law enforcement officers to gain your trust, say: "Yes, I know them. I'll call them directly and get this sorted out."

This simple statement can deter the scammer and end the call.

#### REMEMBER:

- Law enforcement will never ask for money over the phone.
- They will not threaten arrest unless you make an immediate payment.
- Any legitimate concern will be handled in person or through official channels.

Please share this information with your family, friends, and neighbors, especially our elderly citizens and the vulnerable. Let's work together to keep our community informed and protected.

## NCDOL Marks 90 Years of Boiler Safety in North Carolina

### Honoring Nine Decades of Protecting Lives, Property, and Infrastructure

The North Carolina Department of Labor (NCDOL) is proud to celebrate the 90th anniversary of its Boiler Safety Bureau, a cornerstone of public safety in the state since 1935.

Created to regulate boiler inspections and ensure safe operation in workplaces across North Carolina, the bureau has expanded significantly over the decades. Today, it oversees the inspection and regulation of heating boilers, hot water storage tanks, and both fired and unfired pressure vessels, conducting approximately 52,000 inspections annually.

"When this program was first established, North Carolina averaged one boiler-related fatality every six weeks," said Labor Commissioner Luke Farley. "Today, that number is down to just one every four years. These results don't happen by accident - it's the product of decades of dedicated work by our inspectors and safety professionals who take their mission seriously."

The Boiler Safety Bureau's efforts have helped prevent accidents, protect workers, and preserve critical infrastructure. Its legacy is one of quiet, consistent service - saving lives and safeguarding communities for nearly a century.

"As we mark this milestone, we're not just looking back - we're looking ahead," Commissioner Farley said. "We remain committed to the highest standards of safety and service, even as new technologies and industries reshape our state. Today marks the beginning of the next 90 years of boiler safety in North Carolina."

More information about the NCDOL Boiler Safety Bureau is at [www.labor.nc.gov](http://www.labor.nc.gov).

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