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NEWS RELEASE

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No vacation from fraud

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — No matter what the vacation plans might be, sunscreen and bug spray can always help prevent burnt skin and mosquito bites. But how are consumers protecting their finances from fraud?

“Even though we’re enjoying our summer vacation, thieves are not on vacation. They are busy trying to get into our accounts,” said Elaine Dodd, vice-president of the fraud division at the Oklahoma Bankers Association.

Although consumers are vigilant with protecting themselves from fraud in everyday life, it is easy for those efforts to be left at the door when leaving on vacation. To help consumers stay protected while vacationing, Oklahoma community banks offer the following tips:

Pre-Vacation:

- Place a temporary stop on newspaper subscriptions and mail delivery
- Inform bank and credit card companies of vacation plans, especially if traveling out of the country

Vacation:

- Avoid sharing specific vacation information on social media until you have returned home
- Stick to ATMs at bank branches to avoid possible credit card skimmers
- Don’t access accounts or personal information on hotel computers or through unsecure Wi-Fi
- Store personal information in the hotel safe
- Keep your wallet or purse light by only taking the items you will actually need

Post-Vacation:

- Review your accounts once you are home and continue to do so following the vacation

With the help of these tips, consumers can keep their finances protected. For additional information on fraud protection, visit www.oklabanks.info.

The OBA represents approximately 230 banks across the state and serves as the primary advocate for the banking industry. It's also heavily involved in fraud training and prevention as well as legal and compliance services and communication for its member banks.

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