

THE CENLA CIRCULAR

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF
CENLA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



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Person to Person Transaction Limits

If you use your CenLA FCU **debit card** for money transactions for apps such as Venmo, Uber, Cash App, etc, please note the following limits:

- 3 transactions per day
- 15 transactions per week
- A "day" begins at 2:30 am and resets at 2:30 pm

*thank
★ you ★*

**14% increase =
New/Used Vehicles**

**10% increase =
Home Equity Line of
Credit (HELOC)**

Stats represent year 2021 to 2022.

Thank you for donating coats to CenLA FCU's Coat Drive. The coats were donated to the Central Louisiana Homeless Coalition in Alexandria. We had a huge load for round one of donations and then a final collection of coats that Ms. Kelly picked up on 12/19/2022. Since we had dangerously cold weather around Christmas, the coats were very appreciated for the needy in our community.



Cindy Sansing, CenLA FCU CEO, Ms. Kelly, and Sarah McKinney

BOAT SPECIAL

Rates as low as
4.75%
APR

JANUARY 3 - MARCH 31

[Click HERE for more info](#)



cenlafcu.org
318.445.7388



What's New?

Check out our staff updates



We have a couple of new faces at CenLA FCU.

- (A) **Debbie Wilks** is a part-time teller currently working at the main office. She grew up in Kentucky and Florida as a preacher's kid before moving to Pineville to attend Louisiana College. She is married to John and they have two grown sons. Debbie loves to read, cross-stitch, and sing in her church choir. Welcome, Debbie!
- (B) **Charlotte Walker** joined CenLA FCU in November as an internal auditor. She comes to us after her retirement of 30 years with the Rapides Parish School Board. She is married to Rick and has one daughter and a grandson. Charlotte loves to watch her grandson play sports, going to the beach, reading, and weight training. We are fortunate to have Charlotte on board!

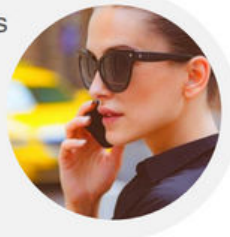
In addition to new staff, congratulations is in order for two of our tellers.

- (C) **Adrienne Carrington** and her husband, Luke welcomed a daughter, Bexley Monroe, on November 15, 2022.
- (D) **Houston Jameson Zimmerman** married James on November 26, 2022. Congratulations!



Each year, fraudsters find new ways to trick people and financial institutions out of money. While some scams involve new tricks, many have been around for decades.

Of the nearly 2.8 million fraud reports, 25% indicated money was lost. In 2021, **consumers reported losing more than \$5.9 billion to fraud.**



Click [HERE](#)

for

**SCAM
PREVENTION
TIPS**

Younger people reported losing money to fraud **more often than older people**

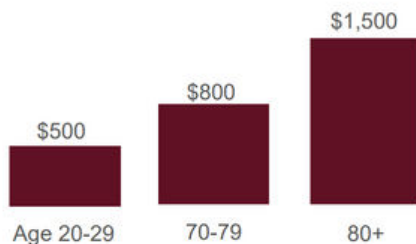


Age 20-29

Age 70-79



18%



But when people aged 70+ had a loss, **the median loss was much higher**

Source: Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book 2021, Federal Trade Commission

Regardless of the fraud type or intention, fraudsters' first objective is to convince others that they are a real member.

They often:

- Build victim profiles
- Change members' contact information
- Request wire transfers and withdraw funds
- Request canceled checks
- Order share drafts
- Request password resets
- Request credit / debit cards
- Set-up audio response or online banking

Fraudsters tend to gravitate to the phone channel because the primary line of defense — call center representatives asking challenge questions — is highly vulnerable to social engineering.

TIPS ON AVOIDING FRAUD



Click [HERE](#) for information about **COMMON CREDIT UNION MEMBER SCAMS**

As we begin 2023, we are grateful for the CenLA FCU Board of Directors. The time and commitment devoted from this team of volunteers does not go unnoticed. Thank you all for your willingness to lead CenLA FCU.

Members, if you or someone you know would be interested in running for a Board position, please let Cindy Sansing know. Her email is csansing@cenlafcu.org. The Board is elected at our Annual Membership Meeting in September.



PLANNING TO PURCHASE a VEHICLE IN 2023?

**AUTO FLASH
SALE**

**MARCH,
JUNE &
OCTOBER**



CENLA
Federal Credit Union

More information to come!

CENLA
Federal Credit Union



Help us spread the good news about the 1% APR interest rate reduction for **SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**. Contact Christie Smith, Marketing Director, to schedule a school meeting.

csmith@cenlafcu.org
318.445.7388

Seven Ways to Organize Your Financial Life for 2023

(Provided by the Louisiana Credit Union League)

1. Save More for Retirement

If it is feasible, consider increasing the amount you are contributing to your 401K to prepare for your future. If your company has a match program, make sure you are contributing the maximum amount, so you are not leaving any amount behind. If your company does not offer a match program or a 401K, you can set up recurring auto-deposits into a Roth IRA

2. Reduce Investment Fees

The beginning of the year is a good time to review what fees you currently pay on your investment accounts. Fees, sometimes called expense ratios, can be hidden, so it's a good idea to take note of ongoing fees charged to run your account. Make a list of mutual funds in your 401K and ask your broker to explain what each fee is for.

3. Rebalance Your Investment Portfolio

A good rule to follow when balancing your investments is to subtract your age from 100. Your age becomes the amount you invest in bonds, and the remaining become what you invest in stocks. Regardless of this rule, it's important to note that the market will change over time as bonds and stocks rise and fall. In order to balance your portfolio, you may need to move money from a winning investment into one that is lagging.

4. Shift to a Credit Union with a Higher-Interest Rate for Savings Accounts

Move your funds to a credit union that offers a higher savings rate. Research which credit union offers the highest interest rate for your savings account so you can maximize your funds without putting in a lot of extra effort.

5. Stick to a Budget

Create a budget to help you stay on track throughout the year. Start by making a list of your fixed expenses, as well as your monthly after-tax income. List all of your recurring bills, like rent and car payments, and see how much you have left over after those bills are paid. If you find yourself struggling to be able to afford your monthly expenses, consider decreasing your expenses by looking for ways to downsize or make your monthly payments smaller.

6. Consider Professional Financial Advice

A financial advisor can be a beneficial resource to get you on track with your money. Research financial advisors in your area and choose someone that has your best interests in mind. A financial advisor can guide you in terms of investments, insurance, and other financial planning matters. They can also help you set financial goals and make plans to achieve those goals.

7. Buy Items at a Deep Discount

January is a great time to take advantage of heavily discounted items following the holidays. Because of New Year's Resolutions, like living a healthier lifestyle, businesses will discount exercise equipment knowing that people will be more motivated at the beginning of the year to make big changes. This is also a great time to buy items like winter clothing and holiday decorations because the winter season is ending.

Upcoming Holidays

(Branches will be closed)

MLK, Jr Day
January 16

● **Presidents Day**
February 20

Board Members

Mr. Joseph Moreau, Chairman

Ms. Debra Drayton, First Chair

Mrs. Phyllis Holsomback,
Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Terry Smith, Board Member

Ms. Sandra Caston, Board Member

Mr. Thomas Davis, Board Member

Mr. Raymond Doucet, Board Member

Mrs. Rebecca Prestridge, Board Member

Ms. Vallery Albritton, Board Member



Supervisory Committee

Ms. Vallery Albritton, Chair

Mrs. Bonnie Lord

Mr. Donald Welch



Management

Mrs. Cindy Sansing-James, CEO

Mrs. Rhonda Harvey, Exec VP

Mrs. Tammy Mitchell, VP of Accounting



Newsletter

Mrs. Christie Smith, Marketing

Administration/Downtown Branch

708 Jackson St.

Alexandria, LA 71301

Phone: 318.445.7388

Drive Thru Only:

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon - Fri)

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(First and last working days of the month)



Pineville Branch

105 Griffith St.

Pineville, LA 71360

Phone: 318.445.7388

Lobby Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Drive Thru:

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon-Fri)

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(First and last working days of the month)

9:00 AM - 12 Noon (Saturday)



Coliseum Branch

6500 Coliseum Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Phone: 318.445.7388

Lobby Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Drive Thru:

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon-Fri)

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(First and last working days of the month)