

Attorney General James secures full refunds for all Fantasy Island consumers

Consumers will be refunded \$425,000 for season passes, meal plans and other goods



New York Attorney General Letitia James announced she has negotiated a settlement guaranteeing all consumers who purchased season passes, meal plans and associated goods and services at the Western New York theme park Fantasy Island will be fully reimbursed for all advance purchases made for the 2020 season. After the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) issued subpoenas to Fantasy Island's owner and individuals associated with the company last month, the OAG negotiated an agreement to ensure full restitution for all consumers, totaling nearly \$425,000.

"While Western New Yorkers struggle financially with the economic impact of the coronavirus, I'm pleased to announce that we will soon make consumers whole by providing those who prepaid for season passes, meals and associated services at Fantasy Island with nearly \$425,000 in financial restitution," James said. "Our

office was able to secure full refunds for all consumers thanks, in large part, to the hundreds of Western New Yorkers who promptly heeded our call to file a complaint with our office. Fantasy Island provided Western New Yorkers with great memories for years, but it's vitally important that we don't let that fantasy end with a nightmare."

Fantasy Island first opened on Grand Island in Western New York in 1961, but announced its closure in mid-February. In just the first day after the news broke, James' Buffalo regional office received more than 150 complaints from consumers who prepaid for the 2020 season, asking for assistance obtaining refunds. The attorney general immediately took action the next morning, sending a letter to Fantasy Island's owner - Apex Parks Group LLC in Aliso Viejo, California - demanding refunds be provided to consumers for the 2020 season, otherwise the company would face legal action. In the six weeks since Fantasy Island's closure was announced, Western New Yorkers have filed more than 500 complaints with the OAG.

As a result of the negotiated settlement, the OAG has received a payment totaling \$424,848.07, which the owners of

Fantasy Island have represented is sufficient to provide full refunds to all consumers. Consumers do not need to follow up with the OAG or file a complaint if they have yet to do so, as names and contact information for all 2020 season pass purchasers have been shared with the OAG.

The OAG has yet to set a timetable for mailing checks out, but will work expeditiously to do so.

Due to the influx in complaints being filed with the OAG on a number of other issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the office asks consumers to avoid calling the OAG for status updates at this time, so that phone lines can remain open for the reporting of new complaints and scams.

This matter is being handled by Assistant Attorney General Christopher L. Boyd, under the supervision of Assistant Attorney General-in-Charge of the Buffalo Regional Office Michael Russo, with assistance from Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for Upstate New York Joseph Malczewski. The division of regional affairs is led by Deputy Attorney General for Regional Affairs Jill Faber, under the oversight of First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

Sheriff Howard reminds public DV unit is there for victims

Erie County Sheriff Timothy B. Howard reminds residents the Erie County Sheriff's Office domestic violence unit is working and available to assist victims.

"During these trying times, the domestic violence unit advocates of the Erie County Sheriff's Office continue to work with individuals who are experiencing do-

mestic abuse, elder abuse, rape, and sexual assault," Howard said. "Our advocates will respond to every call, but if you are in danger, dial 9-1-1 immediately."

The trained members of the domestic violence unit provide confidential support and assistance to all clients. If someone believes they are a victim, they can call

858-7999 or 858-7057. ECSO's specially trained domestic violence specialists and advocates are available to help victims of sex crimes and family violence with:

- Safety planning and crisis intervention, shelter options;
- Confidential support for victims of domestic violence, family

violence, elder abuse, rape and sexual assault;

- Danger assessment;
- Referrals to appropriate services;
- Escort to court, legal referrals, and court advocacy;
- Assistance in obtaining an order of protection;
- Crisis intervention and sup-

port for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, rape, and sexual assault; and

- Assistance with application for compensation with New York State Crime Victims Board (VINE Program).

The Sheriff's Office urges anyone who is in immediate danger to seek a safe place and call 911.



www.supermarketliquor.com

8438 NIAGARA FALLS BLVD
 Corner of Military
 2 minutes from Fashion Outlets
297-7393

*The Best Selection of
 Liquor in Western New York
 is at Supermarket
 Liquors & Wines!*

OPEN 7 DAYS
 Hours: Sun 12-7pm
 Mon-Thurs 9am-10pm
 Fri & Sat 9am-12 Mid

Follow Us on Twitter SML WINES

We Accept Debit Cards



PRICES VALID FROM 4/5/20 - 4/18/20
 CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY

 SKOL 80° Vodka \$11⁹⁹ <small>1.75</small>	 E & J California Brandy \$13⁹⁹ <small>LTR</small>	 SVEDKA 80° Vodka \$17⁹⁹ <small>1.75</small>	 BACARDI Silver or Amber Rum \$18⁹⁹ <small>1.75</small>	 FLOWER CITY GIN \$18⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 VICTORIA Pink Gin \$20⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 BLACK BUTTON Bourbon Cream \$25⁹⁹ <small>750</small>
 SKREWBALL Peanut Butter Whiskey \$26⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 GODIVA Chocolate Liqueur \$26⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 CAPTAIN MORGAN Spiced Rum \$27⁹⁹ <small>1.75</small>	 HENNESSY VS Gift Set \$35⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 WOODINVILLE Bourbon Whiskey \$36⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 TANGUERAY London Dry Gin \$37⁹⁹ <small>1.75</small>	 SPEYBURN Companion Cask \$37⁹⁹ <small>750</small>
 JIM BEAM Single Barrel \$30⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 HIGH WEST Double Barrel Rye \$39⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 TACONIC Double Barrel Maple Bourbon \$39⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 HUDSON Baby Bourbon \$45⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 JEFFERSONS RESERVE Very Small Batch \$47⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 WIDOW JANE 12yr Single Barrel \$71⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 WHISTLE PIG 10 yr Rye Single Barrel \$74⁹⁹ <small>750</small>
 BERINGER MAIN & VINE California Wines ALL TYPES \$7⁹⁹ <small>1.5</small>	 CHATEAU STE MICHELLE Riesling \$7⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 LITTLE PENGUIN California Wines \$8⁹⁹ <small>1.5</small>	 COLUMBIA CREST Grand Estates Chardonnay \$8⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 KENDALL-JACKSON Vitners Chardonnay \$10⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 FRANCISCAN Chardonnay \$10⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 ESTANCIA Cabernet Sauvignon \$10⁹⁹ <small>750</small>
 KENDALL-JACKSON Rosé \$11⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 J LOHR Pinot Noir \$12⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 LIBERTY SCHOOL Cabernet Sauvignon \$12⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 RODNEY STRONG Rosé \$14⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 A TO Z Pinot Noir \$15⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 DECOY SONOMA Merlot \$17⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 FEDERALIST Zinfandel \$18⁹⁹ <small>750</small>
 DAVINCI Pinot Grigio \$7⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 VILLA SOPITA Sangiovese \$7⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 CINZANO Asti \$8⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 LOUIS JADOT Beaujolais Villages \$9⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 ANTIGAL UNO Malbec \$11⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 RINALDI Moscato D'Asti \$12⁹⁹ <small>750</small>	 LOUIS JADOT Pouilly Fuisse \$22⁹⁹ <small>750</small>