



County of Hamilton

DUSTY RHODES

AUDITOR

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

138 EAST COURT STREET

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Dusty Rhodes (513-946-4047)

SKIMMER SWEEP

Hamilton County Auditor Dusty Rhodes reports his office's Weights and Measures staff checked seventy-two (72) gas stations in the county as part of a six county "skimmer sweep" late last week (Thursday and Friday) in coordination with the Cincinnati office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

"We welcome the assistance of the FBI Special Agents in helping us to protect consumers and possibly apprehending suspects," said Rhodes.

No skimmers were discovered in Hamilton County but there were 11 stations with broken security tape on the pumps.

Weights and Measures inspectors from Butler, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, and Montgomery Counties physically inspected the most vulnerable gas stations in their counties.

About 250 gas stations were covered. The only skimmers found were in Montgomery County where five were revealed. No other devices were found in other counties. The FBI is now in possession of these recovered skimmers.

Credit card skimming devices are used to steal credit and debit card numbers as

well as PIN numbers for the purpose of identity theft. The use electronic devices that connect to a credit card reader and record the data of cards used. These devices often have Bluetooth capability, allowing identity thieves to access the data from a distance.

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