

Department of Justice and Consumer Services is moving

New office is in downtown Clearwater

As of Monday, Aug. 29, Pinellas County's Department of Justice and Consumer Services will be in new offices at 631 Chestnut St. in downtown Clearwater, the former home of the Pinellas County Park Department (currently Parks and Conservation Services).

The department has two divisions, the Office of Consumer Protection and the Office of Justice Coordination.

Justice Coordination administers contracts and program funding related to the criminal justice system including grants, contracts and programs for the Pinellas-Pasco Medical Examiner, Gulfcoast Legal Services and the Sixth Judicial Circuit's Drug Court. Justice Coordination's phone number will remain the same at (727) 453-7441.

Through investigation of consumer complaints, Consumer Protection provides regulatory enforcement of county ordinances regarding charitable solicitations, bingo, fortunetelling, price gouging, towing, moving and adult use establishments.

In addition, the department conducts criminal investigations of consumer fraud, mediation of consumer complaints and provides consumer outreach information to alert the public regarding scams, consumer fraud, identity theft and Internet crime. The main consumer line is (727) 464-6200.