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NEWS RELEASE
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STATE EXPANDS SKIMMER INVESTIGATION **Five Gas Pumps & Three Stations Impacted**

(Phoenix) The Department of Weights and Measures is expanding the area of enhanced surveillance after finding five skimmers on gas pumps. The latest two were installed at a Circle K in Glendale (59th Avenue and W. Bell Road). Inspectors found three last week in northeast Phoenix (N. Tatum Road and E. Greenway; N. 32nd Street and E. Cactus).

“After we found the two last week, we targeted stations within a two mile radius,” said Michelle Wilson, Environmental Program Manager. “This week two turned up in Glendale; now we’ll focus on stations in that area. We recommend stations check gas pumps on a regular basis.”

Weights and Measures inspected more than 1,100 stations in 2015. During inspections they check the quality of the gas, the amount of gas pumped and look inside the pump for skimmers and other safety issues. There are more than 2,100 stations in the state.

“We are out checking as much as we can, but a criminal could put in a skimmer the day after an inspection,” said Mark Killian, interim director Department of Weights and Measures. “People need to be vigilant about what their station does to protect their information. Ask the clerk how often they check the pumps for skimmers, and then you can make an educated decision about using your credit or debit card.”

If consumers pumped gas at Circle K at 59th Avenue and Bell before today, they should check their accounts for charges they did not make.

Consumers can protect themselves against skimmers by carefully inspecting gas pumps before inserting their cards. Many gas pumps have a sticker crossing between the pump and the pump access door near the credit card slot. If the sticker is cut or there is tape residue, notify the station attendant.

Since 2009 the Department has proactively inspected for illegally placed credit and debit card skimming devices in gas pumps. We educate gasoline retailers on ways to prevent the crime and what to do if a device is found. Once there is evidence of a crime, the business or Department notifies local police to have the skimmer confiscated.

More consumer tips are attached or are available at: <https://dwm.az.gov/sites/default/files/Skimmers.pdf>