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CONSUMER ALERT: Attorney General Jeff Landry Issues Mardi Gras Safety Tips

BATON ROUGE, LA – State tradition tells folks to *laissez les bon temps rouler*, but Attorney General Jeff Landry wants families to stay safe as they let the good times roll this Mardi Gras season.

“As thousands of revelers converge across Louisiana to celebrate Carnival, it is important for citizens to be vigilant because large crowds can bring safety concerns,” said Attorney General Jeff Landry. “Keeping a few simple tips in mind and using good judgement can help families have a safe and fun Mardi Gras.”

Whether attending a ball or catching a parade, Attorney General Jeff Landry offers these tips to help protect citizens:

- Do not carry large sums of cash and be aware of pick-pocketing. Keep purses and wallets on person at all times.
- Attend parades in groups, with family or friends.
- Choose a well-lit area for night parade viewing.
- Lock vehicle and do not leave valuables in plain sight.
- Obey traffic laws and do not park in front of driveways or fire hydrants.
- Remind children of basic safety rules before the event: check with guardians before going anywhere, take a friend everywhere, and yell “no” if a stranger tries to touch or harm.
- Teach children to find a police officer or security guard if they get lost or separated. Parents and guardians should have a current, good quality photo and descriptive information for each child.
- Establish a designated, post-parade meeting place for family and friends in event of becoming separated.
- Have children memorize guardian’s cell phone number and be sure phone is fully charged.
- Do not follow floats or enter restricted areas.
- Do not throw or allow children to throw any objects in the direction of floats, bands, or parade participants.

For more information on these or other consumer-related tips, contact Attorney General Jeff Landry’s Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-351-4889 or visit www.AGJeffLandry.com.

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