

DEBBIE BROWN – Background & Biography

Investigator/Community Education Coordinator
Hillsborough County Consumer Protection Agency

Debbie Brown has been employed with the Hillsborough County Consumer Protection Agency as an Investigator and the agency's first Community Education Coordinator since 2004. Prior to her move to the County, she worked as an Outreach Coordinator for both the Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office and the State Department of Financial Services. Debbie stays on top of the latest information and creates all of the programs. She coordinates, promotes and presents all of the educational programs to focus on matters of consumer protection, financial fraud and how to reduce the chances of victimization. She also manages a volunteer program with 8 senior volunteers who enhance her ability to cover the county with prevention programs. A mother of three, Debbie's passion is to arm our youngest consumers, especially high school students, with information that will educate and protect them in the marketplace. Once accepted into the School Enrichment Resource Volunteers in Education Speakers Bureau (SERVE), she created a program entitled, ***"Adding Teen Consumer Fraud Education to the 3 R's."*** The program won a national award in 2006 from the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA). Her program is concentrated on preparing high school students for the adult financial world. She accomplishes this through a 4 program series that teaches students about Credit and Identity Theft, Cyber Crime, Car Buying, Lease Agreements and Modeling & Scholarship Scams. The high school program has been highlighted by many of the Bay area's television consumer reporters as a valuable resource for students.

Debbie is a graduate of the University of South Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. She currently volunteers for the Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT) Council, as a member, Seniors In Service of Tampa Bay, Inc., as an advisory board member, and the Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension, as an advisory board member.