Credit Card Skimmer Fraud Alert

We received a report yesterday afternoon of a fraudulent credit card skimming device found at one of the self serve gas pumps at the Circle K/Shell Gas Station at 10600 Roosevelt Blvd North. A similar device was found at a Circle K/Shell Station in the unincorporated Largo area earlier this week (PSCO).

Since it’s likely that more skimmers have been placed on ATMs or gas pumps in the Pinellas/Tampa Bay area, the St. Petersburg Police is reminding the public to be on the lookout for these devices whenever utilizing their credit cards at these types of locations. Indications that a skimmer has been placed on a machine are:

1. Wires seen sticking out of the card reader.
2. The card reader is loose or appears damaged.
3. Tape or tape residue on the card reader slot.
4. The card reader looks different, or off color from the rest of the machine.

If a fraudulent device appears to be affixed to the machine, notify the bank/store management and make sure the local police have been contacted. It is also recommended that you frequently go online and check your accounts for unusual or unauthorized activity. If noted, contact your bank or credit card company immediately.

information released by Mike Puetz, 727-893-7550, michael.puetz@stpete.org