Consumer Alert

Are you looking for a balloon ride or want to try skydiving? Consumers are urged to be cautious when purchasing a commercial balloon ride or a skydiving jump.

Unfortunately, there are a few companies who pretend to sell balloon rides or skydiving flights but are only selling coupons that most likely are not redeemable. Their official looking web pages may look like they are located in your area but have no connection to a bone-fide provider.

See this article

Also see the link below to a news video from KFMB-TV8 in San Diego regarding companies selling coupons for commercial balloon rides.

When you purchase a balloon ride or skydiving certificate, ask questions:

- Are you dealing with the actual ride operator or a re-seller?
- Who is the pilot?
- What level of pilot certificate do they have?
- Where do they operate from?
- How long have they been in business?
- How many passengers will be on the balloon?

Only pilots with a valid commercial pilot certificate can charge for rides. Know who you are dealing with before you purchase.