

AVOID CORONAVIRUS SCAMS

Fraudsters are taking advantage of fears surrounding the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), and targeting the elderly and vulnerable. This guide can help you protect yourself.

Robocalls

Don't answer calls from unknown numbers. If you do pick up the phone, don't give out personal information, and don't speak. Hang up as soon as you hear a recorded voice.

Fake Cures

Don't buy or promote anything with claims to treat or prevent coronavirus. According to the CDC & FDA there are no approved vaccines, drugs, or products currently available to treat or prevent the virus.

Fake Charities

Real charities do not require instant donations. If a charity asks for donations in cash, gift card, or wire transfer, don't send money.

Home Test Kits

Ignore offers for home test kits; if you think you have symptoms caused by the virus, contact your medical provider.

Impersonation Scams

If you receive a call from a person claiming to be a government official who tells you that to receive stimulus money, you should click on a link to a website, ignore it. Stimulus funds will be sent automatically with no action required from most people.

Stay in the Know

Contact trusted sources to confirm information is correct. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at www.cdc.gov.



Report Coronavirus Fraud

If you believe you were a victim of a scam, call local law enforcement and file a complaint online or by phone:

National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF):
Phone: 1-866-720-5721
Email: disaster@leo.gov

Report Price Gouging

If you feel like you have been a victim of price gouging, here are some steps you can take to help the Attorney General's office investigate:

- Note the time, place, address, and name of the gas station or business;
- Note the price you paid;
- Note any prices nearby and get the same information on those stations or businesses;
- Take pictures that identify the business, along with the price; and
- Provide your name and contact information

Email the information to pricegouging@scag.gov or call 803-737-3953. You can also report any incidents online at www.scag.gov.

Additional Information

www.cdc.gov

www.coronavirus.gov

www.fda.gov

www.ftc.gov/coronavirus

www.justice.gov/usao-sc

www.scdhec.gov

www.consumer.sc.gov

www.aging.sc.gov



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