Coronavirus Scams & Fraud

Be aware that criminals are attempting to exploit COVID-19 worldwide through a variety of scams. There have been reports of:

- Individuals and businesses selling fake cures for COVID-19 online and engaging in other forms of fraud, like setting up fake roadside testing facilities.
- Phishing emails from entities posing as the World Health Organization or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Malicious websites and apps that appear to share virus-related information to gain and lock access to your devices until payment is received.
- Seeking donations fraudulently for illegitimate or non-existent charitable organizations.

Criminals will likely continue to use new methods to exploit COVID-19 worldwide. If you think you are a victim of a scam or attempted fraud involving COVID-19, you can report it without leaving your home through a number of platforms:

- Contact the National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721 or via email at mdisaster@leo.gov
- If it's a cyber scam, submit your complaint through https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx

Combatting Hoarding & Price Gouging

The Department of Justice is also committed to preventing hoarding and price gouging for critical supplies during this crisis. The Department will aggressively pursue bad actors who amass critical supplies either far beyond what they could use or for the purpose of profiteering. Scarce medical supplies need to be going to hospitals for immediate use in care, not to warehouses for later overcharging.

If you have information on hoarding or price gouging of critical supplies, you can report it without leaving your home to the National Center for Disaster Fraud by calling the National Hotline at (866) 720-5721 or by e-mailing: disaster@leo.gov

* Link to the DOJ Coronavirus page: https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus