



How to Spot, Avoid, and Report Coronavirus Scams



Scammers are taking advantage of fears surrounding the Coronavirus. Our office is sharing the following Federal Trade Commission tips to help you fight back.

Treatments and Cures:

Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. If you see ads touting prevention, treatment, or cure claims for the Coronavirus, stop. If there's a medical breakthrough, you're not going to hear about it for the first time from an ad or sales pitch. At this time, there also are no FDA-authorized home test kits for the Coronavirus.

Email and Text Scams:

Don't click on links from sources you don't know. It could download a virus onto your computer or device. Make sure the anti-malware and anti-virus software on your computer is up to date.

Robocalls:

Hang up on illegal robocallers. Don't press any numbers. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.

Government Relief Checks:

Expect scammers to take advantage of this. Here's what you need to know: The government will not ask you to pay anything up front to get this money. The government will not call to ask for your Social Security number, bank account, or credit card number. Anyone who does is a scammer.

Fake Charities:

Do your homework when it comes to donations. Use the organizations listed at ftc.gov/charity to help you research charities. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don't do it.

Misinformation & Rumors:

Before you pass on any messages, do some fact checking by contacting trusted sources. Visit usa.gov/coronavirus for links to federal, state and local government agencies.

For More Information Visit:

- fdacs.gov/covid19
- ftc.gov/coronavirus
- coronavirus.gov
- usa.gov/coronavirus

Report suspicious claims or questionable practices:

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Contact-Us/File-a-Complaint>

Contact the Florida Attorney General's Office:

Toll Free Number: 1-866-966-7226

Questions/Complaints Form:

http://myfloridalegal.com/contact.nsf/contact?Open&Section=Citizen_Services

Contact Our Office for Questions or Assistance:

Seminole County Legal Aid Society

Website:

scbalas.com

Phone Number:

407-834-1660

Address:

101 West Palmetto Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750

E-mail:

coordinator@scbalas.com