



Regional Operations Intelligence Center Threat Analysis Unit



COVID-19 : How to Report Fraud, Hoarding, and Price Gouging

The New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (NJ ROIC) is providing this informational bulletin in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We encourage vigilant citizens to report incidents of fraud, hoarding, and price gouging to the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) Hotline at **(866) 720-5721** or email at disaster@leo.gov.

- Please visit <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus> for further information.

Fraud

- COVID-19 email/social media-based phishing scams: Attempts to convince recipients to open links or attachments to direct users to malicious websites or deliver malware, reveal sensitive information, or donate to fraudulent causes.
- Phishing emails from entities posing as the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Sales of homemade sanitizer, below standard Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and fake cures or medicine/kits not approved by the FDA.
- Robocall scams, including alleged emergency management calls asking for a specific individual/for the social security number of the person answering the phone.
- Targeting healthcare providers - electronic prescription transmitting system (EPTS).
- Stimulus check scams are expected.

Hoarding and Price Gouging

- To combat the hoarding and price gouging of critical supplies, the President issued an Executive Order pursuant to Section 102 of the Defense Production Act, which prohibits hoarding of designated items.
- The U.S. Attorney General created the COVID-19 Hoarding and Price Gouging Task Force. In a [memo to U.S. Attorneys](#), he stated: "We 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."
- On 25 March, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services issued a [Notice](#) designating categories of health and medical supplies that must not be hoarded or sold for exorbitant prices.
- On 30 March, a [Brooklyn \(NY\) man was arrested](#) for assaulting FBI agents and making false statements about his possession and sale of scarce medical equipment.

NATIONAL CENTER
FOR DISASTER
FRAUD

LEADERSHIP

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CONTACT

**Disaster Fraud
Hotline**
(866) 720-5721

NCDF *en ESPAÑOL*



FEMA

**Are you a Disaster
Survivor?**

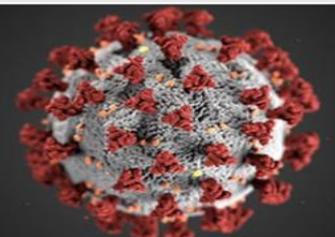
Apply for Assistance

- Full Site
 - Call (800) 621-3362
 - TTY (800) 462-7585
- [Helpful Information on Applying](#)
[State Disaster Pages](#) | [Recovery Tips](#)

Disaster Fraud Hotline

866-720-5721
email: disaster@leo.gov

Anonymous & Confidential



REPORT COVID-19 CRIME