

District Attorney John T. Chisholm warns:

# Beware Coronavirus Scams

Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office



## Watch Out



**Calls, texts, emails, posts** make coronavirus claims and link to web sites that offer money, insurance or services but ask for your personal information or accounts.



**Imposters** call or use fake websites and pretend to be from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO) and other government agencies. They ask for your personal information.



**Free money** is offered in the form of stimulus packages, grants, loan & debt relief, and debt consolidation. "Applications" ask for your accounts.



**Bogus goods** like counterfeit test kits, vaccines, medicine, sanitizer, masks, gloves, & other protective equipment are offered at steep discounts.



**Bogus charities** claim they will assist healthcare workers or offer other coronavirus relief.



**Bogus cures** claim to treat COVID-19 or prevent infection.

## Protect Yourself



**Click smart.** Research web sites and watch for misspelled words. Don't open attachments or links from unknown sources – these download computer viruses or lead to fake websites asking for personal info.



**Secure your identity.** Never give out your personal information (username, password, date of birth, SSN, accounts). Government agencies never request personal information by robocall or unsolicited email.



**No freebies.** There is no free money! Scammers will steal your identity & accounts, and use your information to defraud others.



**Shop smart.** Use reputable businesses and trusted sellers with a history of favorable reviews and strong Internet presence. Compare prices and beware medical supplies offered at bargain prices.



**Donate smart.** Research before you donate, research charities at [give.org](http://give.org) and [wdfi.org/charitableorganizations](http://wdfi.org/charitableorganizations). Real charities will never ask you to donate via cash, gift card, or third-party wire transfer.



**Stay healthy.** Listen to the experts. There are NO approved drugs or vaccines to treat or prevent COVID-19. Unapproved treatment can injure you!

## Report Scams



- Report **telemarketing & Internet** scams to the FBI: [ic3.gov](http://ic3.gov)
- Report **price gouging & consumer fraud** to Consumer Protection at (800) 422-7128 or [DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov).
- Report **known suspects & local scams** to your police department.
- Reporting **questions?** Contact us at [milwaukee.da@da.wi.gov](mailto:milwaukee.da@da.wi.gov) or (414) 278-4645.

## Stay Informed



- [Milwaukee County COVID-19](#)
- [WI Dept. of Health Services – COVID-19](#)
- [WI COVID-19 Information](#)
- [WI Consumer Protection Bureau](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)
- [Federal Communications Commission](#)
- [Federal Trade Commission](#)

**If it sounds too good to be true, it is a scam!**

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