

# Don't Fall for Coronavirus Scams



## Community Protection Division Boulder County District Attorney's Office

### What Scammers Are Doing:



**Setting up fake websites** to sell **unproven treatments**, or to offer cleaning and disinfecting products at **exorbitant prices**.



**Calling, texting, sending emails, and creating social media posts** to entice you to buy a bogus testing kit or fake product, or to offer vaccinations.



**Sending fake information** in messages that appear to be from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or other experts claiming to have new info about the virus.



**Creating fake "investment opportunities"** claiming that products or services of publicly-traded companies can prevent, detect, or cure coronavirus - and that the stock of these companies will dramatically increase in value as a result.



**Setting up fake efforts to take donations** for victims in hard-hit areas.

**Call the Community Protection Division with Questions, or to Report a Scam**  
**303-441-3700**



### What You Can Do:

#### Be alert!



- According to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), there are currently **NO** drugs or vaccines approved to treat or prevent coronavirus.
  - **Ignore online offers, calls, emails, texts and social media posts** telling you otherwise.

#### Be smart buying online



- Shop from trusted places and sellers and compare prices before buying.
- The FDA advises that testing for the coronavirus is only conducted in verified state and local public laboratories.
  - **Ignore online offers for virus test kits.**

#### Visit reliable resources for the most up-to-date information



- Boulder County Public Health: [www.boco.org/COVID-19](http://www.boco.org/COVID-19)
- Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment: [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/)
- CDC: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

#### Don't click on links in unsolicited emails or from sources you don't know



- These links can lead you to a fake website or can download malicious software (malware) or a virus onto your computer.
- Make sure the anti-malware and anti-virus software on your computer is up to date.

#### Do your homework before donating or investing



- Check that a charity is legitimate at the Colorado Secretary of State's Office or at [www.coloradogives.org](http://www.coloradogives.org).
- If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, **don't do it.**
- Be alert to virus-related investment schemes, and research new investments carefully.

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