



THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

For current updates from DOJ, go to: <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus>

Combatting Coronavirus Fraud | Department of Justice Resources Coronavirus Fraud News

The Department of Justice is remaining vigilant in detecting, investigating, and prosecuting wrongdoing related to the crisis. In a [memo to U.S. Attorneys](#), Attorney General Barr said, "The pandemic is dangerous enough without wrongdoers seeking to profit from public panic and this sort of conduct cannot be tolerated."

Combatting Coronavirus 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.
- 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. Go to:

- Contact the [National Center for Disaster Fraud](#) Hotline at 866-720-5721 or via email at disaster@leo.gov
- Report it to the FBI at tips.fbi.gov
- If it's a cyber scam, submit your complaint through <https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>

Combatting Hoarding and Price Gouging

The Department is also committed to preventing hoarding and price gouging for critical supplies during this crisis. To combat this misconduct, the President issued an Executive Order pursuant to section 102 of the Defense Production Act, which prohibits hoarding of designated items, and Attorney General Barr has now created the COVID-19 Hoarding and Price Gouging Task Force. In a [memo to U.S. Attorneys](#), Attorney General Barr said, “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.” [The Secretary of HHS has issued a Notice designating categories of health and medical supplies that must not be hoarded or sold for exorbitant prices.](#)

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.

Department of Justice Resources

Actions Taken by the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General

- March 26, 2020 Memo from the Attorney General, [“Prioritization of Home Confinement As Appropriate in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic”](#)
- March 24, 2020 Memo from the Attorney General, [“Department of Justice COVID-19 Hoarding and Price Gouging Task Force”](#)
- March 24, 2020 Memo from the Deputy Attorney General, [“Department of Justice Enforcement Actions Related to COVID-19”](#)
- March 20, 2020 [Memo from the Attorney General to United States Attorneys](#)
- March 16, 2020 Memo from the Attorney General, [“COVID-19 – Department of Justice Priorities”](#)

National Center for Disaster Fraud

The National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) is the result of a partnership between the U.S. Department of Justice and various law enforcement and regulatory agencies to form a national coordinating agency within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice to improve and further the detection, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of fraud related to natural and man-made disasters, and to advocate for the victims of such fraud.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

As the United States and the world deal with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the FBI's national security and criminal investigative work continues. The FBI urges everyone to remain vigilant as threats related to the pandemic arise. Use the resources on [this page](#) to help keep yourself and your family safe from these threats.

Coronavirus Fraud News

March 30, 2020

Press Release

[U.S. Attorney Bryan Schroder Announces Efforts to Prosecute Hoarding and Price Gouging Associated with COVID-19](#)

March 30, 2020

Press Release

[United States Attorney for the District of Columbia Timothy J. Shea's Statement Providing Examples of COVID-19 Scams to Avoid](#)

March 30, 2020

Press Release

[U.S. Attorney Urges Public to Report Suspected COVID-19 Fraud or Price Gouging](#)

March 30, 2020

Press Release

[U.S. Attorney Announces Multi-Agency Group To Investigate And Prosecute COVID-19 Fraud](#)

March 30, 2020

Press Release

[Statement From U.S. Attorney David C. Weiss](#)



Federal Resources

[Coronavirus.gov](#)

[White House Coronavirus Task Force](#)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[CDC.gov](#)

[What the U.S. Government is Doing](#)

[USA.gov](#)

U.S. Department of Justice

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