May 2020

P Fraud Colorado Consumer Fraud Bulletin

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser sends cease-and-desist to companies over COVID-19 tests

AG says businesses falsely claimed COVID-19 tests were FDA-approved

Attorney General Phil Weiser has sent cease and desist letters to three businesses that marketed tests for COVID-19 infection or immunity and overstated the reliability and accuracy of the tests.

"There are COVID-19 tests on the market and not all of them are FDA approved. Unfortunately, some Colorado companies have falsely claimed that tests they administer are FDA approved, and other companies are overstating the reliability and benefits of the unapproved tests they offer," Weiser said.



Read More

Coronavirus Consumer Advice from Attorney General Weiser

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser created a webpage, also available in Spanish, offering guidance and alerting consumers about how they can protect themselves against COVID-19-related scams. Helpful topics include:

- <u>Coronavirus scams targeting older Coloradans</u>
- How to detect fraudulent emails
- Children's online privacy
- Avoiding fraud in PPE purchases for businesses
- Consumer refunds and credits

REGISTER TODAY! Recognize, Refuse, & Report Coronavirus Scams

AG Weiser talks COVID-19 scams targeting older Coloradans and will answer your questions live on the call. May 15, 2020 | 10:00 a.m.



Join AARP ElderWatch and the Colorado Attorney General on a telephonetown hall to talk about Coronavirus scams and learn tips to help you recognize & refuse red flags and report fraudsters. We will even answer your questions live on the call.

Register here

Avoid Coronavirus scams with these tips:

- Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government. Here's what you need to know.
- Ignore online offers for vaccinations. There are no products proven to treat or prevent COVID-19 at this time.
- Be wary of ads for test kits. The FDA recently announced approval for one home test kit, which requires a doctor's order. But most test kits being advertised have not been approved by the FDA, and aren't necessarily accurate.
- Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.
- Watch for emails claiming to be from the CDC or WHO. Use sites likecoronavirus.gov and usa.gov/coronavirus to get the latest information. And don't click on links from sources you don't know.
- Do your homework when it comes to<u>donations.</u> Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.

Stay Informed

For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the websites of the:

- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Take time to report fraud or suspicious activity

By learning how to avoid scams related to Coronavirus, we can work together to ensure no one in our state is taken in by these malicious attempts to defraud Colorado consumers during this public health emergency.

If you notice any scams, fraud, price gouging, or other attempts to take advantage of Coloradans during this public health emergency, contact Stop Fraud Colorado at 800-222-4444 or www.StopFraudColorado.gov.

Tell us your story

StopFraudColorado.Gov

