

'Tis the season for holiday scams

This holiday season, help friends and family avoid a scam

When you talk with friends and family over the holidays, you may hear about new puppies, old sports rivalries, and dreams of the next vacation. As you join the conversation, why not share some ideas to protect the people you care about from scams? Read these tips from the FTC's [Pass It On](#) campaign for ideas, and then tell people where they can find more information on common scams.

And if you or someone you know suspects a fraud or scam, please report it to Stop Fraud Colorado at StopFraudColorado.gov. Happy holidays.



Giving wisely in the time of COVID

Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. That's something scammers do.

The coronavirus pandemic has led to an increase in phony appeals to donate to victims or emergency response efforts. Sham charities succeed by mimicking the real thing. Like genuine nonprofits, they reach you via telemarketing, direct mail, email, and door-to-door solicitations.

With a little research and a few precautions, you can make sure your donations go to organizations that are genuinely serving others, not helping themselves.

[Tips to avoid charity scams](#)

News from Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser

COVID scams are increasing during the holidays

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser offers tips on how to protect yourself

The Federal Trade Commission reports more than \$59 million in consumer losses due to scams during the first half of 2020. Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser issued several cease and desist letters to businesses marketing ineffective COVID-19 tests and so-called coronavirus remedies.

"Sometimes people are hoping for a cure or a romance during this time, so they're more vulnerable to being scammed," said Weiser.

[FOX31 Denver KDVR](#)



Colorado to receive over \$200,000 in data breach settlement with The Home Depot

Attorney General Phil Weiser announced that the State of Colorado will receive \$223,797.22 in a multistate settlement with The Home Depot, following a data breach that exposed the payment card information of about 40 million Home Depot consumers nationwide.

The breach occurred throughout the U.S. between April 10, 2014, and September 13, 2014., when hackers gained access to The Home Depot's network and deployed malware on The Home Depot's self-checkout system.

[Press release](#)

Comcast, Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser, Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman & Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock Launching More Than 20 WiFi-connected “Lift Zones” in Denver Metro Area

As part of its ongoing commitment to help connect low-income families to the Internet so they can fully participate in educational opportunities and the digital economy, Comcast, along with Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser, Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman, and Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock announced plans to equip more than 20 different locations in the Denver Metro Area with WiFi-connected “Lift Zones” by the end of the year.

[Press release](#)

AARP ElderWatch Updates

Free educational online presentations are now available on YouTube

AARP ElderWatch, a partner of the Colorado Attorney General's Office, provides educational presentations for Coloradans 50+ to help them recognize, refuse, and report financial fraud and exploitation. Below you will find a link to a collection of short, educational videos covering a variety of consumer topics ranging from identity theft protection tips to how to create strong passwords for online accounts.

[AARP Video Playlist](#)



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 \(WHO\)](#)

COVID-19 Consumer Advice from Attorney General Phil Weiser

The Office of 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.

Take time to report fraud or suspicious activity

By learning how to avoid scams related to the 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

