

COVID-19 SCAMS

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The scams never stop! The Coronavirus (COVID-19) lead to a new tactic for our everyday fraudsters. The promise of quick cures, fake products, and phishing schemes have already begun! Our Fraud Team found the <u>AARP</u> and <u>CISA</u> articles covering some concerns that the public is experiencing.

Currently, there are stock scams promising a high investment return for a company that focuses on the virus or related products. Other scammers could offer in-demand Coronavirus supplies, such as <u>surgical masks</u>, and not deliver them. The Federal Trade Commission and the Food and Drug Administration have sent warnings to seven companies for selling products that would allegedly cure or prevent COVID-19, the disease caused by <u>the novel coronavirus</u>.

Phishing scams can come from emails or text messages that resemble an organization that looks legitimate. When you click on the email, link, or download the file, you can get a program on your computer that could grant access to all your information. They are even attempting to collect donations or financial information via a phone call and using a familiar group's name to obtain your trust. The <u>UN News</u> also stated some are posing as World Health Organization representatives, saying a trusted government organization name, to solicit personal financial information.

Be safe, diligent, and cautious when it comes to protecting your information. For more Fraud assistance or helpful information visit our Fraud Center <u>https://hcfcu.com/resources/fraud-center/</u>.