S.T.O.P. COVID-19 FRAUD
STRATEGIC TARGETED OUTREACH PROGRAM

Recognize · Protect · Report | COVID-19 Crime

FOR SECURE ONLINE SHOPPING

- DO NOT CLICK ON UNSOLICITED EMAILS OR TEXTS.
- ENSURE A SECURE BROWSER CONNECTION: HTTPS ONLY.
- VERIFY WEBSITE TRUST SEALS BEFORE PLACING AN ORDER.
- OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT WEBSITES END IN .GOV
- INSPECT THE URL OF THE WEBSITE AND VERIFY THE DESTINATION.

FINANCIAL RED FLAGS RELATED TO COVID-19

- BEWARE OF E-MAILS, TEXT MESSAGES OR CALLS OFFERING GOODS, SERVICES, LOANS, OR DEBT RELIEF.
- BEWARE OF REQUESTS FOR UNUSUAL PAYMENT METHODS, SUCH AS CRYPTOCURRENCY, PREPAID DEBIT CARDS, GIFT CARDS, MONEY SERVICE BUSINESSES (MSB) TRANSFERS, OR WIRE TRANSFERS.
- GOVERNMENT AGENCIES DO NOT CALL, TEXT OR E-MAIL: CHECK YOUR MAIL, DO NOT FOLLOW LINKS ON SOCIAL MEDIA, AND USE GOVERNMENT WEBSITES DIRECTLY.
- GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WILL NOT CALL OR E-MAIL ABOUT ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS AND WILL NOT REFER TO IT AS “STIMULUS” – DO NOT OPEN SUCH E-MAILS OR CLICK ON ATTACHMENTS.

PROHIBITED PHARMACEUTICALS AND MEDICAL DEVICES RED FLAGS

- BEWARE OF WEBSITES OR INDIVIDUALS SELLING PRODUCTS CLAIMING TO PREVENT, TREAT, DIAGNOSE OR CURE COVID-19.
- BEWARE OF INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING PERSONAL OR BANKING INFORMATION IN EXCHANGE FOR COVID-19 PRODUCTS.
- BEWARE OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT INFORMATION WRITTEN IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE OR WITH MISSPELLINGS.
- DO NOT BUY PRESCRIPTION PHARMACEUTICALS FROM THIRD PARTY MARKETPLACES OR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.

ONLINE SHOPPING TIPS

- IF A DEAL SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS.
- BE AWARE OF PRICE GOUGING.
- VERIFY PURCHASES ARE FROM LEGITIMATE, TRUSTED SOURCES.
- REPORT COVID-19 FRAUD TO COVID19FRAUD@DHS.GOV

FINANCIAL TIP

- $ REACH OUT TO YOUR ELDERLY FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS AND WARN THEM ABOUT THESE SCAMS.

PROHIBITED ITEMS TIP

- ENSURE YOUR ONLINE PHARMACY IS CERTIFIED BY CHECKING: WWW.SAFEMEDSONLINE.ORG.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.ICE.GOV

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