

COVID-19 SCAM ALERT

I FBI Warns of Potential Fraudulent COVID-19 Antibody Testing

Scammers are marketing fraudulent COVID-19 antibody tests which could provide false results. The FBI says scammers could be seeking individuals' personal information, as well as medical records for the test which can then be used for identity theft schemes. These advertisements can manifest in social media platforms, via email, telephone calls, websites or contact from unsolicited marketers offering "free" COVID-19 antibody tests. Individuals contacting you may request to perform the test for cash. If you believe you have been the victim of a COVID-19 fraud, immediately report it to National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at (866) 720-5721 or 1-800-CALL-FBI.

Source: <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-warns-of-potential-fraud-in-antibody-testing-for-covid-19>

II Fake Mask Exemption ID Cards

Recently, "Face Mask Exempt" cards appeared on social media claiming the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), endorsed by the American Disabilities Act, cleared certain individuals from wearing protective face coverings to stop the spread of COVID-19. A card circulating online by a group calling themselves '*The Freedom to Breathe Agency*', claims that the holder is lawfully exempt from wearing a mask. These cards are not valid. Be wary of any attempt to use or sell these cards.

Source: <https://www.bbb.org/article/news-releases/22700-bbb-warning-mask-exemption-cards-are-fake>

III Social Security's Office of the Inspector General Issues a Warning

Scammers may contact you by phone, letter, text, or email impersonating government officials to trick you into providing money or personal information. They may tell you Social Security is going to provide extra benefits for the pandemic but is now requiring a fee to receive them. Scammers may even pose as COVID-19 contact tracers and ask you for your Social Security Number. Don't be fooled!

Source: https://blog.ssa.gov/social-security-and-aarp-work-to-slam-the-scam/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

IV The Fake COVID-19 Fund

Cash flow for many people is tough now because of COVID-19. Scammers view this as a ripe time to scam you into sharing your personal or financial information. Did you receive an e-mail offering you money from the COVID-19 "Global Empowerment Fund"? Were you asked to provide your bank account information so the funds can be transferred into it? It's a scam! The FTC will never contact you by phone, email, text message, or social media to ask for your financial information or Social Security number. If you think you gave your financial information to a scammer, go to [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov) for steps you can take to protect yourself.

Source: https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/06/fake-emails-about-fake-money-fake-covid-19-fund?utm_source=govdelivery
[coronavirus](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2020/06/fake-emails-about-fake-money-fake-covid-19-fund?utm_source=govdelivery)

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