

COVID-19 SCAM ALERT: Shopping Thieves



Arizona Attorney General
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Scam at a glance:

Due to the current outbreak, many people are self-isolating as a necessary precaution in order to stay healthy. This can pose a great problem for the vulnerable, especially seniors, when it comes to getting much needed groceries and medication.

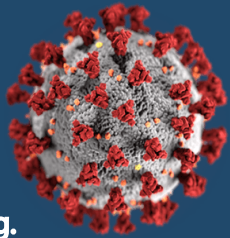
Scammers target populations most susceptible to the virus and offer to shop for them. Once they have their victims money they never return with the items.

Warning Signs:

- A person shows up at your residence without contacting you prior to their arrival.
- A stranger offers to go shopping for you but they do not live in your neighborhood and they are not with an organization you recognize.
- Someone is asking for money upfront to provide a service that has not yet been completed.

Protect Yourself:

- Do not answer the door to strangers you were not expecting.
 - Never allow random strangers in your home!
- Be wary of online postings of people offering to shop for you.
- Do not provide personal or financial information to a stranger.
- Many grocery stores have special shopping hours for vulnerable populations or online orders for delivery or pickup.
- Reach out to a reputable organization for assistance with shopping needs, such as the Area Agency on Aging.



Resources:

Arizona Attorney General's Office

To file a complaint:

www.azag.gov/complaints/consumer

Phoenix: (602) 542 - 5763, Tucson: (520) 628 - 6648
or Toll-free: (800) 352 - 8431

For additional information go to:

www.azag.gov/consumer/consumereducation

Task Force Against Senior Abuse Helpline

(602) 542-2124 or Toll-free (844) 894-4735

Area Agency on Aging

www.aaaphx.org

24-Hour Senior HELPLINE (602) 264-4357 (HELP)

or Toll-Free (888) 264-2258 and

www.azag.gov/scamalert