



Police Department

Village of Pleasantville



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CORONAVIRUS SCAMS

As fear of the Coronavirus spreads and there is talk of government payments to private citizens, criminals will see a golden opportunity. In addition, scams are often successful because **the caller will often have personal information about you or your family member**. They may know names, addresses and dates of birth. These fraudulent callers or e-mails usually target *elderly residents or recent immigrants*. Help educate any elderly family member or neighbors.

People should be wary of any caller or e-mail requesting money or personal information.

If you get a call from someone looking for donations, or claiming to be from an organization such as the ones listed below, be very suspicious:

- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) or the World Health Organization (WHO)
- Medical Providers or "Immunization Centers".

In addition, no program has been approved to send money directly to U.S. citizens, so no one can "get you money faster". If and when such a program is implemented, the federal government will not call or email you for personal information.

Tips on how to combat fraud and protect yourself:

- **DO NOT FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CALLER.**
- Never give any personally identifiable information (PII) to people you do not know.
- Hang up and record the phone number you were contacted from.
- Never click on an embedded link associated with a suspect email.
- Do some research, such as a Google search of the number.
- Get assistance from a family member or friend.

To ensure your complete safety: HANG UP and DON'T GIVE ANY MONEY, GIFT CARDS, WIRE TRANSFERS OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION.

Who should you notify?

- The Pleasantville Police Department is available 24 hrs. a day: 769-1500.
- The NYS Attorney General's office (1-800-771-7755).
- The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is warning people about the possibility of scams related to the coronavirus outbreak. www.ftc.gov/coronavirus