

Local Government Scams on the Rise Community Protection Division Boulder County District Attorney's Office

Localized Government Scams

Scammers are always trying to separate community members from their hard-earned money and creating new scams that may look like they are coming from credible local sources. Below are some of the scams to be aware of:



Local Elections Donation Requests. Scammers pretending to be local elected officials like a Commissioner or Sheriff. A local official will never reach out to you requesting a donation out of nowhere.



You missed jury duty! An imposter pretending to be a Sheriff's Deputy contacts you because there is a warrant for your arrest for missing jury duty. **STOP!** While they may be using the real name of a Sheriff's Deputy, please know that no one from the Sheriff's Office will reach out for payment of a warrant.

Pretend Boulder County Government Departments. Do you receive public benefits or services from Boulder County? Watch out! There are scammers pretending to be with fake Boulder County Departments with names like "Department of Accountability" or "Division of Public Benefits".

Did that property tax information actually come from the Boulder County Assessor? Scammers often will mail out false property tax information and wait for your call to their 800-number phones. Don't call the number, instead call the Boulder County Assessor's office or Treasurer's office about your property tax information.

Setting up fake charities to take donations for victims in hard-hit areas. Be suspicious of random phone calls, emails, text messages, or mailings from charities that you have not opted into receiving information from.

What You Can Do



Be alert and have a healthy suspicion of unknown phone numbers, emails, text messages, and even door-to-door salespeople.



If someone wants a donation in cash, by gift card, or cryptocurrency **don't do it**.



Question the legitimacy of information and who it is coming from

- Do your homework before donating
 - Check that a charity is legitimate at the Colorado Secretary of State's Office 303-894-2200 <u>https://www.coloradosos.gov/</u>

Contact the legitimate organization involved:

- Boulder County Commissioners Office 303-441-3500
- Boulder or Longmont Courts Jury Commissioner 720-664-1509
- Housing & Human Services 303-441-1000
- City of Boulder Municipal Court 303-441-3419
- City of Longmont Municipal Court 303-774-4804
- Assessor's Office 303-441-3530
- Treasurer's Office 303-441-3520
- Sheriff's Office 303-441-4444

If you need assistance in determining the legitimacy of a call, email, text message, or otherwise, call the Community Protection Division with questions, or to Report a Scam at 303-441-3700



Michael Dougherty, District Attorney

BOULDER OFFICE: JUSTICE CENTER · 1777 6TH STREET · BOULDER, COLORADO 80302 · 303.441.3700 LONGMONT OFFICE: 1035 KIMBARK · LONGMONT, COLORADO 80501 · 303.441.3700 <u>WWW.BOULDERCOUNTY.ORG/DISTRICT-ATTORNEY</u> · TDD/V: 303.441.4774