



Red Cross Impersonators Selling COVID-19 Home Tests

Fraudsters impersonated Red Cross volunteers in an attempt to victimize concerned individuals. These attackers said that they were working for Red Cross and that they were offering COVID-19 home tests door-to-door. In the case someone fell for the ruse, these malicious actors could have fraudulently charged their victims for a test or they could have also simply robbed their victims upon gaining entry to their homes. The Red Cross is NOT selling home tests door-to-door. And NEVER allow a stranger into your home!

Phishing Scam Emails

Several waves of phishing emails are circulating that claim to originate from the World Health Organization (WHO) instruct the recipients to open an attachment for the purpose of receiving updated instructions on how to fight the coronavirus. This attachment, when opened, revealed “Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) CURE.exe.” When run, this loads a scammer who is capable of intercepting keystrokes, stealing credentials, taking screenshots, and exfiltrating its stolen data. The WHO is not sending out emails on how to fight the coronavirus. DO NOT open any attachments from people you do not know!

Phishing Scam Phone Calls

People impersonating the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have begun calling people and urging them to “reserve a vaccine for the COVID-19” with a credit card. Some of these individuals even went so far as to ask their targets to provide them with their Social Security Number. The CDC is NOT calling people to reserve vaccines and would NEVER ask for any personal information!

Scams Promising \$1K Checks for Economic Relief to Pandemic

This scam specifically sent out attack emails that capitalized on legislation in which every American adult would receive \$1,000 checks as part of a \$1 trillion stimulus package responding to COVID-19. In this particular scam, the malicious actors claimed that their targets’ checks were already waiting for them. All they needed to do was to hand over their personal information, bank account data and Social Security Numbers—nearly everything they needed to perpetrate identity theft. Do NOT give anyone your personal information!

The U.S. Attorney urges the public to report fraud schemes related to COVID-19 to the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF). The NCDF can be reached by calling the hotline at 1-866-720-5721.