



# SCAM ALERT

JULY 2020

Contact Tracing Scams

## Scammers Use Contact Tracing to Scam Victims

Scammers may contact you by phone, text, or email posing as COVID-19 contact tracers working for the Arkansas Department of Health to help stop the spread of the virus. They may send a text message with a link asking you to click on the link to be contacted about a positive test; however, the link may give the scamster access to your personal information. They may also ask for payment or your Social Security number, Medicare number or other personal information to steal your identity. Don't be fooled! Legitimate contact tracers will not ask for money.

## What You Should Know:

The Arkansas Department of Health is using contact tracing to identify people who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If you are contacted you will be asked to enroll in the Department of Health's Situational Awareness Response Assistance (SARA) system for email updates, and will be asked quarantine.

Contact tracing does not cost you money.

## TIPS:

- Avoid giving personal bank account information over the phone or any other form of payment to pay scam artists posing as contact tracers
- Avoid clicking on links in emails and text messages

## How to Respond:

- ◆ If you receive an unsolicited email or text message from a potential contact tracer, verify its authenticity by contacting the Arkansas Department of Health at [ADH.CoronaVirus@arkansas.gov](mailto:ADH.CoronaVirus@arkansas.gov) or call (800) 803-7847.
- ◆ Share this information with loved ones to prevent others from becoming victims of the scam.

**REPORT all scams to the Arkansas SMP — 866-726-2916**



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