




Marshall Fire Scams

Community Protection Division
Boulder County District Attorney's Office
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Beware of Marshall Fire Scams

-  ➤ Insurance agent reaching unexpectedly to you and providing too good to be true options
-  ➤ Contractors calling to give you a "deal" on fire clean up
-  ➤ Charities reaching out to you requesting monetary donations in support of the Fire Department, Law Enforcement, or Victims
- Fundraisers or "GoFundMe" pages that are not endorsed by the people or organizations they are supposed to help.

What to Do Instead

- Don't answer calls from unknown phone numbers
- Hang up the phone if you believe the call to be a scam
- Do not "click" or "tap" on email or text message links if you do not know the sender
- Contact your insurance provider directly through their legitimate contact information
- Take the needed time to properly research and vet a contractor before doing business with them
- Do not give gift card numbers or financial account information to "Charities" over the phone, instead visit <https://www.coloradogives.org/%20boulder-countywildfirefund?step=step1> if you want to donate towards the Marshall Fire.

Use Caution If Someone

Tells you there is a fee to access FEMA or disaster assistance services

- ✓ Tells you that the fee will get you to the front of the disaster assistance list
- ✓ Asks for payment in the form of gift cards, bitcoin, wire transfer, or access to your financial accounts
- ✓ Tells you they are a licenses and bonded contractor without providing proof

What to Know

- ✓ Scammers thrive in situations when people are stressed and take advantage of these situations
- ✓ Know that government disaster assistance agencies **do not ask for financial account information**
- ✓ There is **NO FEE** required to apply for or get disaster assistance from FEMA or the Disaster Assistance Center
- ✓ Scammers will often "spoof" local phone numbers. Spoofing is when a scammer uses a local number or a number from an actual agency to appear like a legitimate caller.

To Report a Scam

- Contact the Federal Trade Commission at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud) to report fraud or by contacting the Community Protection Division at 303-441-3700

If You Are a Victim of a Scam

- If the scam occurred through the internet, report the fraud at <https://www.ic3.gov/>
- For all other scams, report them with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>
- Contact your local law enforcement agency and let them know you are a victim of a scam
- Contact the Community Protection Division to learn how to protect yourself against future scams and frauds

Call the DA's Community Protection questions 303-441-3700

For Disaster Recovery, please visit
<https://www.bouldercounty.org/disasters/wildfires/res/marshall/>

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