



Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 93
April 26, 2020, 1:35 p.m. (ChST)

**Beware of Scams Related to COVID-19 Economic Payments;
Avoid Sharing Unofficial Information**

As of April 25, 2020, 141 cases have been confirmed through COVID-19 testing provided, with 5 deaths and 128 released from isolation. When a patient is released from isolation, her or she is no longer considered infectious. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) research and published guidelines, a patient is released from isolation after at least 72 hours have passed without a fever or additional respiratory issues and at least seven days have passed since symptoms first appeared. All remaining cases are in isolation.

COVID-19 test results are reported from multiple labs at varying times of the day. Cumulative test results will be provided this evening once all tests from today are finalized.

For updated information on COVID-19 cases on Guam, including residential villages of confirmed cases, visit the COVID-19 Dashboard at <http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/>.

Avoid Fake Social Media Accounts and Scams Related to COVID-19 Economic Payments

The Joint Information Center is aware of a fake Instagram account under the name “leogu.errero” and a photograph of Governor Lou Leon Guerrero on its profile. The fake Instagram account reportedly offers to other Instagram users, a cash grant of \$50,000 in a potential COVID-19 related fraudulent scam. The Instagram account is not connected to any official account from the Office of the Governor or any official announcement regarding COVID-19 economic payments. Governor Leon Guerrero’s official Instagram account can be found at @govlougum.

A separate fake Instagram account was reported under the name “leevin_taitano,” using a photo of Attorney General Leevin Camacho. The fake Instagram account reportedly offers a new tax free benefit program claiming to be sponsored by the World Health Organization. The Instagram account is not connected to any official account from the Office of the Attorney General of Guam or any official announcement regarding COVID-19 economic payments. The Office of the Attorney General’s official Instagram account can be found at @oagguam.

The community is reminded to be on the lookout for scam artists trying to use the economic impact payments as cover schemes to steal personal information and/or money. Remember, the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) will not call, text you, email you or contact you on social media asking for personal or bank account information – even related to the economic impact payments. Also, watch out for emails with attachments or links claiming to have special information about economic impact payments or refunds.

Avoid Sharing Unofficial Information

Another unverified message circulating purports that stimulus checks will be released on specific dates for specific income brackets. While there is open source information relating to the message, these dates are not applicable to Guam. The JIC will continue to share official updates regarding stimulus checks as they become available.

The community is reminded to only share verified, official information with others to avoid the spread of misinformation.

For inquiries on COVID-19, contact 311 through a local number, or call the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.

-###-