



Sun City West Foundation, Inc.

A non-profit corporation supporting charitable, educational and service activities and organizations that serve our community

Sun City West Foundation PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Trending Scams, Criminals Taking Advantage

by
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Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Sun City West Foundation is pleased to partner with Maricopa County Attorney's Office in presenting this FREE seminar. It will be held at 14465 W RH Johnson Blvd.

Scammers use fear and intimidation to steal our money and get our personal information by pretending to be government officials, health care organizations or family members in distress. Knowing not to click on email links, placing privacy controls on your devices and monitoring your accounts are a few helpful prevention tools. Please join us for an informative class on how to protect yourself.

Scams, Schemes and Frauds, How to Avoid Being a Victim

As soon as we think we have seen it all, along comes another scam. Criminals are taking advantage of the Corona Virus to develop new scams to get our valuable information. In the last couple of weeks, fake vaccine surveys have been emailed or sent via text message. The scam promises to provide you with a gift for participating in a survey in order to get your personal information. Fake vaccination cards, fake testing kits and getting you priority for the vaccine have been the newest scams. Another new text scam is one that pretends to be from the Arizona Motor Vehicle Department and this week, Amazon delivery phone calls stating there is a fake charge or problem with a delivery. It is difficult to keep up!

During this presentation, we will review the importance of educating yourself, taking a breath when confronted with a scam and sharing information with others. Most of us think that we will never fall for a scam, but the people committing these crimes are practiced and know how to trick us with fear, threat or coercion to get into our bank accounts or get our identity.

We will discuss the below topics:

- Review dollar amount of loses and which scams are trending.
- Patterns and methods used to get your money. Gift cards are one of the most common ways they ask for money.
- Prevention suggestions.

Included in this presentation will be short videos, including “virtual kidnappings.” That is when you receive a call telling you that a loved one has been kidnapped and they are demanding a ransom, it is an elaborate scam and one to talk about with your family.

Easy prevention suggestions include not using public WI-FI, have secure and private social media accounts and different passwords for your accounts.

If you have a story to share, please feel comfortable and safe in sharing, that is the best way to protect others as most of us are receiving these calls, text messages and emails.

To reserve your seat, call the Sun City West Foundation office at 623-584-6851. A reservation is mandatory because we have seating limitations due to Covid-19. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed. These events are open to any and all interested.

Sun City West Foundation is a non-profit 501c(3) organization serving the community since 1987 with community center facilities, including banquet and meeting rooms, as well as the ever popular Helping Hands service.