



- CONSUMER ALERT -

January 13, 2021

Do Not Pay for a COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment

Vero Beach, FL – Today, Indian River County issued a Consumer Scam Alert warning residents about COVID-19 vaccine scams that contain misleading websites charging fees for vaccine appointments. This week, the Health Department of Indian River County and the County's Emergency Management Division have encountered several instances where individuals have presented false appointment confirmations.

The State of Florida is offering **FREE** vaccinations to individuals 65 years and up, long term care facility residents and staff and health care personnel with direct patient contact. Indian River County receives its vaccine allocation from the State and **WILL NOT** charge individuals for COVID-19 vaccines.

Below are some tips on how to avoid COVID-19 vaccine scams:

- Know that if a person or website requests money in exchange for an appointment, it is a scam;
- Check Indian River County's website (www.ircgov.com) for the most up-to-date vaccine distribution guidelines;
- Only use the links provided through the notifications from ALERT Indian River or those featured on the Indian River County website to schedule an appointment at a County-operated vaccination clinic.

Indian River County residents are encouraged to report suspicious solicitations or COVID-19 vaccine scams to the Office of the Attorney General by calling (866) 9NO-SCAM (866-966-7226) or visiting MyFloridaLegal.com.

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