





Marshall Fire Scams



Community Protection Division
Boulder County District Attorney's Office
UPDATED 1/5/2022



Beware of Marshall Fire Scams

-  ➤ **Insurance agents/companies reaching out 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 "Go Fund Me" pages that are not endorsed by the people or organizations they are supposed to help.**


What to Do

- 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/bouldercountywildfirefund?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 a 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 licensed 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) to report fraud or by Contact 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

Information on Fire Assistance & Resources on Reverse Side

Michael Dougherty, District Attorney

BOULDER OFFICE: JUSTICE CENTER · 1777 6TH STREET · BOULDER, COLORADO 80302 · 303.441.3700

LONGMONT OFFICE: 1035 KIMBARK · LONGMONT, COLORADO 80501 · 303.441.3700

WWW.BOULDERCOUNTY.ORG/DISTRICT-ATTORNEY · TDD/V: 303.441.4774



Marshall Fire Assistance & Resources

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Resources for Victims Impacted by Marshall Fire



Boulder County Office of Emergency Management

Contact the Call Center at 303-413-7730 (Open from 9:00am – 6:00pm daily)

Check for Emergency Status at: <https://www.boulderoem.com/emergency-status/>



Boulder County Disaster Assistance Center

Location: Boulder County Southeast County Hub – 1755 South Public Road in Lafayette

Hours of Operation: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. seven days a week

Who: For people who lost homes in or were displaced by the Marshall Fire

Help Available: Includes specialists from Boulder County Housing and Human Services, Public Health, and Community Services, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Mental Health Partners, many other area government and nonprofit organizations, and major insurance companies on-site.

Boulder County Disaster Assistance Center will provide services including:

- Consultation on property loss and filing claims for assistance
- Information about short and long-term housing
- Help with vital records
- Referrals to emergency shelter
- Food assistance
- Mental health services and victim advocates
- COVID-19 tests
- Transportation vouchers
- Referrals for personal finance planning

Additional Resources



- ✓ **Boulder County Marshall Fire Resources:** <https://www.bouldercounty.org/disasters/wildfires/marshall/>
- ✓ **Mental Health Fire Crisis Hotline:** 303-447-1665
- ✓ **Victim Assistance:** 303-441-3656
- ✓ **FEMA Assistance:** <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4634#local-resources>
- ✓ **Unemployment Benefits Claims or Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA):** Visit <https://cdle.colorado.gov/unemployment/file-a-claim>. For questions about UI, call Workforce Boulder County at 720-776-0822
- ✓ **United Policyholders – Insurance and Recovery Help:** <https://uphelp.org/disaster-recovery-help/marshallfire/>
- ✓ **Boulder County Bar Association - Legal Assistance:** www.boulder-bar.org

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