



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND BORDER CONTROL
NAURU FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT
Government Offices, Yaren District

PUBLIC NOTICE

[ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT 2008]

FIU ALERT NO: 01/2020

ONLINE SCAMS

The Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit wishes to advise all persons of the Republic that with the COVID-19 pandemic, we all need to remain vigilant and beware of online scams. As a nation, we are all dependent on the internet for information and Services.

At the same time, online criminals are looking to exploit innocent and unsuspecting persons thus using the COVID-19 pandemic for their own financial gain. Everyone must exercise vigilance when using the internet or social media to avoid becoming victims of these online scams.

With the COVID-19 crisis, it is expected that there will be an increase in cyber related crimes, fake or fraudulent charities and medical schemes which target innocent and unsuspecting victims. Online criminals will attempt to profit from these online scams by exploiting people in urgent need of medical attention and the goodwill of the general public as well as spreading misinformation about COVID-19.

EVERYONE must be cautious and beware of ‘scams’ such as:

- Attempts to solicit donations, steal personal information (Identity theft) or distribute malware (viruses causing damage to computer systems) by impersonating government agencies or health care organisations.
- Investment Scams – calling for investments promoting products and services and falsely claiming that the said product and services of publicly traded companies can prevent, detect and cure coronavirus.
- Product Scams – companies selling unapproved or misbranded products that make false health claims relating to COVID-19.

Everyone must exercise great caution when trading using online services including the social media and conduct due diligence checks when engaged in any business transaction with new suppliers. You must immediately consult the Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit to verify if the supplier or request for charity is genuine or not before transferring any funds.

Furthermore, you must not respond to any unsolicited emails, do not click on any links, do not open files and emails or share bank account details if they are suspicious or if you do not know the source of such emails and links.

For more information or assistance, feel free to contact me on email: rajasswamy@gmail.com or telephone: 5573388.

Dated this 17th of July 2020.

Rajas Swamy
Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit Supervisor