

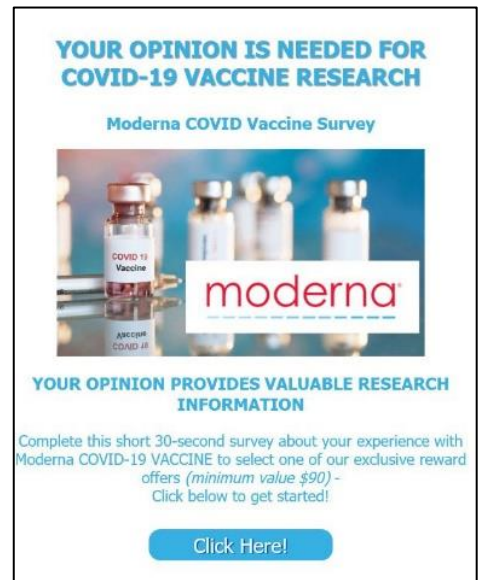


PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS CENTER WARNS PUBLIC OF POST-VACCINE SURVEY SCAMS

An increasing number of victims are being contacted via email and/or text message after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and asked to participate in a fraudulent post-vaccine survey with the promise of a prize or cash at the conclusion of the survey. The victims are told they can choose from various free prizes, such as an iPad Pro, and only need to pay shipping and handling fees to receive their prize. Victims then provide their credit card information and are charged for the shipping and handling fees, but never receive the promised prize. Victims are exposing their personally identifiable information (PII) to the scammers, thereby increasing the probability of their identity being stolen and/or sold.

WARNING FAKE COVID-19 VACCINE SURVEYS



INDICATORS/TIPS TO AVOID BEING VICTIMIZED

NO post-vaccine surveys are being conducted by Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson & Johnson. Any emails or text messages that purport to be sent on behalf of these companies seeking personal financial information is illegitimate and fraudulent as these companies would never request an advanced payment for shipping or other expenses. **DO NOT** open the messages or provide any personal information, including credit card and/or bank information.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM

If you are a victim of these post-vaccine survey scams:

- Report the activity to the online payment service used for the financial transaction.
- Contact your financial institution upon discovering any fraudulent or suspicious activity within your account(s).
- Report suspected crime to www.IPRCenter.gov