
New York Attorney General: Charities Bureau Complaint/Inquiry Form

Description of Program and Relief

Sham charity websites and crowd-funding sites may be created to request donations for virus-relief efforts for victims of COVID-19. Scammers may use emails, texts, and social media posts that appear to give virus updates, but have malicious links that can steal sensitive personal identity information.

The Office of the New York State Attorney General's Department Of Law's Charities Bureau (the "Charities Bureau") provides a "Complaint/Inquiry Form" to investigate complaints that involve 1) wrongdoing by charitable corporations, trusts or other nonprofit organizations; 2) fraudulent or misleading solicitation and improper expenditure of money for charitable purposes; and 3) improper activities of executors, administrators, trustees and personal representatives responsible for honoring pledges or bequests to a charity.

Government or Lead Agency

The Office of the New York State Attorney General's Department Of Law's Charities Bureau.

Dates Available

Open indefinitely.

Eligibility Requirements/Restrictions

Any individual alleging wrongdoing within New York State with respect to purported charitable organizations, including with regard to COVID-19.

The Attorney General does not represent applicants as their private attorney, but represents the public in enforcing laws designed to protect the public from misleading or unlawful business practices. In order to resolve your complaint, the Attorney General may send a copy of your complaint and any documents you provide to the person or business about whom you are complaining and you authorize that person or business to release information concerning your complaint to the Attorney General.

Contact for More Information

Email: charities.bureau@ag.ny.gov. Charities Bureau Phone: (212) 416-8401.

The Application

The complaint form must be printed, filled out, scanned and sent to charities.complaints@ag.ny.gov.

The complaint form is available here: <https://www.charitiesnys.com/pdfs/char030.pdf>. This form is not available in other languages.