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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF FLORIDA

Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

AG Moody Activates Price Gouging Hotline



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Attorney General Ashley Moody today activated Florida's Price Gouging Hotline with Subtropical Storm Nicole approaching the state. The activation comes following Governor Ron DeSantis's state of emergency declaration for 34 counties. In areas covered by the state of emergency, Floridians can report instances of severe price increases on essential commodities needed to prepare for the storm. Florida's price gouging law only applies to commodities and services essential to preparing for, or recovering from, a storm within the areas of a declared state of emergency.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "As Subtropical System Nicole approaches the state, Floridians should make preparations now. If anyone suspects price gouging, report it to my office by calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM, filing online at MyFloridaLegal.com or using our free No Scam reporting app."

During a storm-related declared state of emergency, state law prohibits excessive increases in the price of essential commodities, such as food, water, hotel rooms, ice, gasoline, lumber and equipment needed as a direct result of the event.

The state of emergency is declared for the following counties: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, DeSoto, Duval, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Nassau, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter and Volusia.

Anyone who suspects price gouging can report it to the Florida Attorney General's Office by using the No Scam app, visiting MyFloridaLegal.com or calling 1(866) 9NO-SCAM. Attorney General Moody's No Scam app can be downloaded for free on Apple and Android devices

through the app store by searching No Scam.

For tips on reporting price gouging, click here.

For more information on price gouging, click here.

Violators of the price gouging statute are subject to civil penalties of $1,000 per violation and up to a total of $25,000 for multiple violations committed in a single 24-hour period.

To download Attorney General Moody's *Scams at a Glance: Price Gouging* brochure in English, click here. To download the Spanish version, click here.

For tips on what to do before and after a storm strikes, download the 2022 Hurricane Preparedness Guide here. For the Spanish version, click here.

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UPDATED 11.9.22: Governor Ron DeSantis extended the state of emergency for Tropical Storm Nicole to the following counties: Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hernando, Jefferson, Levy, Marion, Pinellas, Taylor and Wakulla.

The Attorneys General's Price Gouging Hotline is now active for these 11 additional counties. Florida's price gouging laws for this event apply only within the areas of the declared state of emergency and only for commodities and services essential to preparing for, or recovering from, the storm event.

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UPDATED 11.10.22: Governor Ron DeSantis extended the state of emergency for Tropical Storm to Nicole to all 67 counties.

The Attorney General's Price Gouging Hotline is now active in all 67 Florida counties and apply for commodities and services essential to preparing for, or recovering from, the storm event.

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ACTUALIZADO EL 11.10.22: El gobernador Ron DeSantis extendió el estado de emergencia para la tormenta tropical Nicole a todos los 67 condados.

La Línea Directa de Denuncias de Aumentos Abusivos de Precios de la Fiscal General ahora está activa en los 67 condados de Florida y se aplica a productos básicos y servicios esenciales para prepararse para la tormenta o recuperarse de ella.