



Bob Ferguson
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Consumer Protection Division
800 Fifth Avenue • Suite 2000 • MS TB 14 • Seattle WA 98104-3188
(206) 464-7744

March 26, 2020

Devon Mahdi
5416 W Comanche Dr.
Spokane, WA 99208

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

RE: Price Gouging Related to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Mr. Mahdi:

I received information from Amazon.com, Inc. indicating that you sold N95 masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes on your homecomfort storefront at excessive prices during the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is illegal to charge excessive prices for goods necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this conduct is a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020. The Attorney General's Office is actively investigating price gouging related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will take legal action against sellers who are violating the law.

As you know, Washington is struggling with this pandemic. Washingtonians should have access to necessary goods at reasonable prices. In this time of uncertainty, consumers should not have to worry about being charged excessive prices for goods they need to stay healthy. My office will hold sellers accountable for price gouging during this emergency.

You must immediately stop selling N95 masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfecting wipes or any other product necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonian at an unreasonably excessive price. Continuing to sell these products at such a price may result in a lawsuit against you and the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2000 per violation.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON
Attorney General
RWF/jlg



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March 26, 2020

Douglas Min
DVS LLC
2126 Newport Way NW
Issaquah, WA 98027-5393

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

RE: Price Gouging Related to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Mr. Min:

I received information from Amazon.com, Inc. indicating that you sold 3M N95 masks on your Nicas storefront at an excessive price during the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is illegal to charge excessive prices for goods necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this conduct is a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020. The Attorney General's Office is actively investigating price gouging related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will take legal action against sellers who are violating the law.

As you know, Washington is struggling with this pandemic. Washingtonians should have access to necessary goods at reasonable prices. In this time of uncertainty, consumers should not have to worry about being charged excessive prices for goods they need to stay healthy. My office will hold sellers accountable for price gouging during this emergency.

You must immediately stop selling N95 or any other product necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonian at an unreasonably excessive price. Continuing to sell N95 masks at such a price may result in a lawsuit against you and the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2000 per violation.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON
Attorney General
RWF/jlg



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March 26, 2020

JoAnn Chan
Pass the Book
14714 Main Street
Mill Creek, WA 98012

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

RE: Price Gouging Related to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Ms. Chan:

I received information from Amazon.com, Inc. indicating that you sold 3M N95 masks on your Amazon storefront, Unaffiliated Nature, at an excessive price during the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is illegal to charge excessive prices for goods necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this conduct is a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020. The Attorney General's Office is actively investigating price gouging related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will take legal action against sellers who are violating the law.

As you know, Washington is struggling with this pandemic. Washingtonians should have access to necessary goods at reasonable prices. In this time of uncertainty, consumers should not have to worry about being charged excessive prices for goods they need to stay healthy. My office will hold sellers accountable for price gouging during this emergency.

You must immediately stop selling N95 masks or any other product necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonian at an unreasonably excessive price. Continuing to sell N95 masks at such a price may result in a lawsuit against you and the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2000 per violation.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON
Attorney General
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March 26, 2020

Western Safety Products, Inc.
505 South Lander Street
Seattle, WA 98134

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

RE: Price Gouging Related to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Western Safety Products:

I received information from Amazon.com, Inc. indicating that you sold 3M and Moldex-Metric N95 masks on your Amazon storefront, Western Safety Store, at an excessive price during the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is illegal to charge excessive prices for goods necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this conduct is a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020. The Attorney General's Office is actively investigating price gouging related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will take legal action against sellers who are violating the law.

As you know, Washington is struggling with this pandemic. Washingtonians should have access to necessary goods at reasonable prices. In this time of uncertainty, consumers should not have to worry about being charged excessive prices for goods they need to stay healthy. My office will hold sellers accountable for price gouging during this emergency.

You must immediately stop selling N95 masks or any other product necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonian at an unreasonably excessive price. Continuing to sell N95 masks at such a price may result in a lawsuit against you and the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2000 per violation.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON
Attorney General
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March 26, 2020

Tyson F Schultz
Stripes Global, Inc.
9105 158th St. Ct. NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98329-8842

NOTICE TO CEASE AND DESIST

RE: Price Gouging Related to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Mr. Schultz:

I received information from Amazon.com, Inc. indicating that you sold Pasture N95 masks on your Amazon storefront at an excessive price during the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is illegal to charge excessive prices for goods necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this conduct is a violation of the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.020. The Attorney General's Office is actively investigating price gouging related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will take legal action against sellers who are violating the law.

As you know, Washington is struggling with this pandemic. Washingtonians should have access to necessary goods at reasonable prices. In this time of uncertainty, consumers should not have to worry about being charged excessive prices for goods they need to stay healthy. My office will hold sellers accountable for price gouging during this emergency.

You must immediately stop selling N95 masks or any other product necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Washingtonian at an unreasonably excessive price. Continuing to sell N95 masks at such a price may result in a lawsuit against you and the imposition of civil penalties of up to \$2000 per violation.

Sincerely,

BOB FERGUSON
Attorney General
RWF/jlg