



**Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 13**  
**April 13, 2026, 10:40 a.m. (ChST) JR1009#13**

### **Beware of Scams and Report Suspicious Activity**

The Mariana Regional Fusion Center (MRFC) issued the following advisory to the community. The period of storm preparation and the subsequent recovery are prime times for criminal exploitation. The MRFC is actively monitoring for scams, price gouging, and suspicious behaviors that threaten the safety and financial security of residents. You are reminded to remain vigilant.

#### **Critical Scams to Identify and Avoid**

Scammers adapt their tactics throughout the life cycle of a storm. Be alert for:

- **Pre-Storm Price Gouging:** Once a State of Emergency is declared, prices for essential goods (fuel, water, batteries, lumber) are legally frozen. Increasing prices during this time is a crime. Report exorbitant pricing immediately.
- **Post-Storm Contractor Fraud:** Unlicensed individuals often go door-to-door offering "fast-track" repairs or debris removal. They typically demand cash upfront. Never pay in full before work is completed and verified.
- **Government/Utility Impersonation:** Scammers may pose as FEMA, GPA, GWA, or even law enforcement to "inspect" property or demand "service restoration fees." Official government aid and damage inspections are always free.
- **Robocalls & Phishing:** Be wary of urgent texts or emails about "Typhoon Sinlaku relief" that ask you to click a link to "reserve your spot" for assistance. These are designed to steal personal data and MFA codes.

#### **Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR)**

The MRFC utilizes the "If You See Something, Say Something" protocol to identify potential threats. A Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) focuses on behavior, not an individual's identity. Please report the following:

- **Misrepresentation:** Someone using fake badges, makeshift uniforms, or unofficial vehicle placards to access restricted staging areas or private residences.
- **Unauthorized Surveillance:** Individuals taking photos or video of critical infrastructure (power substations, water tanks, port facilities) or emergency response teams in a surreptitious manner.
- **Testing Security:** Anyone attempting to enter "Authorized Personnel Only" zones at shelters or probing the perimeter of utility sites.
- **Eliciting Information:** Unusual questioning regarding the location of emergency fuel reserves, communication hubs, or the schedules of security patrols.
- **Theft or Diversion:** Any theft of emergency supplies, medical equipment, or government vehicles.
- Report suspicious activity to the MRFC at (671) 475-0400 or via email at [mrfc@ghs.guam.gov](mailto:mrfc@ghs.guam.gov).

#### **Fighting Misinformation**

Inaccurate reports on social media can hinder emergency response. The MRFC urges residents to rely solely on official government sources for weather updates and recovery information.

Visit the following links for the latest information:

- NWS Website: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

- NWS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/>
- GHS/OCD Website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/>
- GHS/OCD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/>
- JRM Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jrmguam>
- JTF-M Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/1CdEchVcDs/>

The **GBHWC Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** remains operational **24/7**. The community may call or text the hotline at 988, or chat online at [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org).

For more information, contact the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10

-###-