Alejandro (Alex) Abreu is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. Alex is currently the COVID-19 Fraud Coordinator for the Northern District where he serves as legal counsel for the federal judicial district on matters relating to the COVID-19 health crisis. Alex has previously served as a Trial Attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment & Natural Resources Division and as a Cavalry Scout in the U.S. Army. Alex holds a B.A. in English from Case Western Reserve University and a J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

The presentation will review the efforts currently being undertaken by the U.S. Attorney’s Office to combat COVID-19 fraud, and hoarding and price gouging of Department of Health and Human Services-designated scarce materials, including personal protective equipment. The COVID-19 pandemic has, predictably, caused an uptick in fraud due to the amount of money being spent by governments and hospitals alike on PPE. The presentation will also cover useful information bank investigators can share in suspicious activity reports to help detect and ultimately disrupt fraud networks attempting to take advantage of the public during these uncertain times.