



Telephone Scams

Don't let them happen to you

Don't Become A Victim

There is currently an ongoing telephone scam in which scammers call pretending to be the Internal Revenue Service looking to collect unpaid taxes. Typically, a recorded message is played which asks the resident to call a contact number. After calling that number, the resident will be asked for personal information to prevent a lawsuit from being filed, as well as money to pay a fee. Again, THIS IS A SCAM. The IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor call about taxes owed without having mailed a bill
- Demand that taxes be paid without giving the taxpayer the opportunity to ask questions
- Require you to use a specific payment type, such as a prepaid debit card
- Ask for card numbers over the phone
- Threaten to bring in local law enforcement for non-payment



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There is another scam going around in which residents are called and told they have won a contest to try to get the residents to divulge their address and contact information. Be advised that if you have not entered a contest, you cannot win; this is also A SCAM.

To Avoid Being Victimized:

- Resist the pressure to act quickly
- Ask for a name and a phone number you can call
- Contact my office to make sure you don't get scammed
- Contact law enforcement

If you have received these phone calls, receive them in the future, or feel that you are a victim of a telephone scam, please call my office at **(631) 585-0230** and we will help you get in touch with the proper authorities.

- If you receive a phone call about a utility bill and they ask for a credit card or prepaid debit card, ask for a name, address and call back number and call your utility provider to check

For more information on telephone scams, visit www.fbi.gov or www.state.gov and search "Telephone Scams."