

**The IRS will never:**

- ♦ Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer.
- ♦ Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.
- ♦ Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- ♦ Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

**For More Information:**

IRS website scam information:

<https://www.irs.gov/uac/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>

Illinois Attorney General website consumer protection:

<http://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/consumers/index.html>

**If you think you have been the victim of a scam, contact the Bartlett Police Department**

**630-837-0846 or 911**

# ALERT BULLETIN



# Don't Be A Victim!



**Bartlett Police Department**  
228 South Main Street  
Bartlett, Illinois 60103  
630-837-0846

# ALERT BULLETIN

## IRS SCAM

Many people have a fear of the Internal Revenue Service. This fear is what the scammer is counting on and will try to take advantage of. It may start with a call that is from an area code which usually is outside the Chicago area, but not always. A telephone call from a very official sounding person (male or female). The call may be an automated one telling you to call a specific phone number...**DON'T DO IT!**



### SCAMMER TRICKS:

- Caller ID may appear to be from the 202 area code, which is Washington, D.C.
- Caller ID shows the letters “IRS” as the incoming call.
- Caller identifies themselves as the IRS.
- If you answer the call, the caller will tell you that you owe the IRS taxes and penalties.
- The caller will then demand that you wire the money to an account they give you or to an address or P.O. Box.
- A new scam involves the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) where the person calling demands immediate tax payment through a prepaid debit card.
- The scammer goes on to say that if you do not comply within 24 hours, legal action will be taken to collect the money owed to the IRS.

If you have voicemail, the message will go something like this...

*“Hi this is Jane Doe from the IRS with very time sensitive information about the penalty tax that you have pending. If you do not respond within the next 24 hours, legal action will be taken against your properties to collect the tax penalty you owe. Please call xxx-xxx-xxxx immediately”*

The caller may also threaten you with a lawsuit or criminal charges.

Subsequently, you will get another call with the same demand. The caller will demand that you wire the required taxes or penalty immediately to a certain address or wire it to an account.

## WHAT THE SCAMMER WANTS...**MONEY**

## YOUR RESPONSE...**HANG UP**

Do not engage the caller. DO NOT PAY and DO NOT DISCLOSE PERSONAL INFORMATION. If the scammer’s phone number is displayed on your Caller ID, write it down.

**Remember: Scammers Change Tactics --**  
*Aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents remain a major threat to taxpayers, but variations of the IRS impersonation scam continue year-round and they tend to peak when scammers find prime opportunities to strike.*