

Nevada Legal Services

Senior Law Project Digest

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Don't Become a Victim of IRS Imposters This Tax Season



Often fraud making the rounds during tax season involves IRS impersonators. In 2016, one insidious group of con artists swindled more than 15,000 people by claiming to be IRS agents and threatening arrest and deportation. The swindlers stole more than \$300 million. *Often times this money is not recoverable.*

What you need to know about the IRS process

If there is a problem with a person's taxes, the IRS issues notices by mail – not by phone. The IRS will *never* ask for payment by phone using a prepaid debit card, money order or wire transfer. Nor will they ask for a credit card number over the phone, request personal or financial information by e-mail, text, or any social media.

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be from the IRS:

- Hang up immediately
- Forward scam e-mails to phishing@irs.gov
- Do not open any attachments or click on any links in those e-mails
- If you owe Federal taxes, or think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with your payment questions.
- If you do not owe taxes, fill out the "IRS Impersonation scam" form on the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration's (TIGTA) website, www.tigta.gov, or call TIGTA at 800-366-4484.



If there is a problem with your taxes the IRS will mail, not call you. Never make a payment over the phone.

Spot IRS Imposters

Imposters often:

- Utilize an automated robo-call machines
- Use common names and fake IRS badge number
- May know the last four digits of the victim's social security number
- Make caller ID information appear as if the IRS is calling
- Aggressively demand immediate payment to avoid being criminally charged or arrested
- Claim that hanging up the telephone will cause the immediate issuance of an arrest warrant for unpaid taxes
- Send bogus IRS e-mails to support their scam
- Call a second or third time claiming to be the police or department of motor vehicles, and the caller ID again supports their claim

February Calendar

Fun Fact: Did you know that the Federal Tax Code is more than 75,000 pages long....

Feb. 2 – Happy Ground Hog's Day!

Feb. 13 – Douglas County Senior Center

Feb. 14 – Happy Valentine's Day!

Feb. 16 – Churchill County Senior Center

Feb. 20 – Happy President's Day!

Feb. 2 – Wells Senior Center

Feb. 14 – Dayton Senior Center

Feb. 15 – Silver Springs Senior Center

Feb. 17 – Fernley Senior Center

Feb. 24 – Storey County Senior Center

Senior Legal Helpline
Toll Free: (877) 693-2163
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Nevada Legal Services, Inc., is a non-profit organization providing free legal assistance to low-income Nevadans. Nevada Legal Services is dedicated to strengthening the community by ensuring fairness and providing equal access to justice for low-income Nevadans. We are a statewide organization serving all seventeen Nevada counties.

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