



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

## LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

P.O. Box 8068  
Moscow, Idaho 83843  
(208) 882-2216  
FAX (208) 883-2281



### Richard Skiles

Sheriff

### Tim Besst

Chief Deputy

### Brannon Jordan

Operations

### Doug Anderson

Support Services

### Ronald Manell

Jail Commander

**TO: ALL MEDIA OUTLETS**

**FROM: Lt. Brannon Jordan**

**Date: 08-03-2017**

**RE: IRS Phone Scam**

The IRS phone scam has been around for several years. The Latah County Sheriff's Office has received reports that this type of scam is active in our area again.

*Please read the 2013 IRS Tax Tip describing this scam and how to avoid it.*

If you receive a call like this please report it to your local law enforcement agency. DO NOT give out personal information, credit card or bank account information, or send money to a caller involved in this, or any other similar scam.

---

## IRS Warns of Phone Scam

IRS Special Edition Tax Tip 2013-13, November 7, 2013

The IRS is warning the public about a phone scam that targets people across the nation, including recent immigrants. Callers claiming to be from the IRS tell intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The scammers threaten those who refuse to pay with arrest, deportation or loss of a business or driver's license.

The callers who commit this fraud often:

- Use common names and fake IRS badge numbers.
- Know the last four digits of the victim's Social Security number.
- Make caller ID appear as if the IRS is calling.
- Send bogus IRS emails to support their scam.
- Call a second time claiming to be the police or DMV, and caller ID again supports their claim.

The truth is the IRS usually first contacts people by mail – not by phone – about unpaid taxes. And the IRS won't ask for payment using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The agency also won't ask for a credit card number over the phone.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be with the IRS asking for a payment, here's what to do:

- If you owe federal taxes, or think you might owe taxes, hang up and call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with your payment questions.
- If you don't owe taxes, call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.
- You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov). Add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments in your complaint.

Be alert for phone and email scams that use the IRS name. The IRS will never request personal or financial information by email, texting or any social media. You should forward scam emails to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). Don't open any attachments or click on any links in those emails.

Read more about tax scams on the genuine IRS website, [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).