



IMPOSTER SCAMS

IRS scams are a type of imposter scam in which a scam artist attempts to convince would-be victims that they are calling or writing from an official source and are requiring urgent action.

Tell-tale signs of an imposter scam are:

- unsolicited calls,
- high-pressure tactics,
- threats of loss if immediate action is not taken,
- requesting payment immediately by wire transfer, credit, prepaid debit, or gift cards.

Florida Attorney General's Office Scams at a Glance: IRS Imposters

Visit MyFloridaLegal.com to find consumer tips or to file a complaint.

Report fraud by calling
1-866-9-NO-SCAM
(1-866-966-7226)

View other Scams at a Glance
resources at:
MyFloridaLegal.com/ScamsAtAGlance

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MyFloridaLegal.com

03/2025

**Scams at a Glance:
IRS Imposters**

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

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SAFE ★ STRONG ★ FREE

IRS IMPOSTER SCAMS: How They Work

IRS scams usually begin with a phone call from someone posing as an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) agent. The caller ID may display a Washington, D.C. area code and the caller may recite a badge number. The caller also may know a portion of the would-be victim's Social Security number or be able to list their mailing address, all to convince the individual answering that the caller is from the IRS. Then the IRS imposter will claim that the individual failed to file their tax return or owes back taxes. The scammer will demand immediate payment and threaten the victim with arrest, deportation, or license revocation if they do not comply.



...STOP IRS SCAMS IN THEIR TRACKS...

- Do not automatically trust the number listed on caller ID. A method called “spoofing” allows scammers to disguise their number and make it appear as if the IRS or another trusted agency is calling.
- Know that the IRS will notify taxpayers through U.S. Mail if there is an issue and will NOT make first contact with a taxpayer by phone call or email, by text message, or through social media.
- Know that the IRS will not threaten to bring in local law enforcement if taxes are not immediately paid.
- Know that the IRS will not demand to be paid immediately using a specific payment method, such as wire transfer, credit card, prepaid debit card, or gift cards.
- Know that the IRS will not request credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Know that the IRS will allow time to substantiate or dispute the amount of taxes owed.
- Contact the IRS directly at **1-800-829-1040**.
- Report suspected IRS phone scams to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at **1-800-366-4484**.
- Contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at **1-800-908-4490** if a taxpayer's identity has been stolen or a fraudulent tax return has been filed on a taxpayer's behalf.
- Forward unsolicited emails claiming to be from the IRS to Phishing@IRS.gov.
- Report suspected scams to Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody at MyFloridaLegal.com.