



# BEWARE OF IRS IMPOSTORS It's Probably a **SCAM!**

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul warns consumers about scammers who pretend they are with the government to scare you into sending money.



## DON'T BE A VICTIM

- Phony IRS scammers are targeting taxpayers around the country.
- Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and must pay **immediately** through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer.
- Victims are threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of driver's or business licenses.
- If victims say no or question the scammers, the scammers may become hostile and insulting.



## TRICKS GOVERNMENT IMPOSTORS USE

IRS scammers may...

- ❖ Use a fake name and IRS badge number.
- ❖ Know the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- ❖ Spoof a fake IRS toll-free number on caller ID.
- ❖ Send phony IRS letters by mail or email in an attempt to make you believe the fake call.
- ❖ Call back and pretend to be from the local police, FBI or Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to convince you that the call is legitimate.

**If you get a call like this, JUST HANG UP!**



## WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET A SUSPICIOUS CALL

If you get a call...

...And you know you **don't owe** taxes, call the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484 to report the scam.

...And you **may owe** taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 for help. Report the call to the Federal Trade Commission Consumer Helpline at 1-877-382-4357 or visit [www.ftc.gov/complaint](http://www.ftc.gov/complaint) to report the scam. Include the phrase "IRS Telephone Scam" in your comments.



**Office of the Illinois Attorney General  
Consumer Fraud Hotlines**

**Chicago  
1-800-386-5438**

**Springfield  
1-800-243-0618**

**Carbondale  
1-800-243-0607**

**Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities can reach us by using the 711 relay service.**