



STATE OF KANSAS
Tenth Judicial District

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Steve Howe, District Attorney
White Collar Crime Division ~ Consumer Protection Division

From: Steve Howe
(Olathe, KS)

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JOHNSON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY WARNS
RESIDENTS AGAINST TAX SCAM

As the tax filing deadline nears, Johnson County District Attorney Steve Howe warns residents to be alert for bogus phone calls and e-mails that appear to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Scammers impersonating IRS representatives often call residents about delinquent tax bills that are falsely owed. Imposters attempt to obtain personal information or money from residents, often seeking payment of the false tax bills through pre-loaded debit cards or wire transfers. Scammers may also attempt to e-mail residents requesting last-minute deposit changes or account updates for refunds being automatically deposited into a resident's bank account.

The District Attorney's Office reminds residents that legitimate government entities will not call or e-mail asking for your personal information, nor will they contact you via social media. Fraudsters can make legitimate numbers appear on your Caller ID and use phishing e-mails to trick you into thinking legitimate agencies are contacting you when they are not. In addition, the IRS will not threaten taxpayers with lawsuits or jail time.

Anyone who has received such a phone call or e-mail is encouraged to contact the IRS Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484 or www.tigta.gov. In addition, residents are reminded that they are entitled to one free copy of their credit report every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. Residents may call 1-877-322-8228 or visit www.annualcreditreport.com to obtain more information.

Residents may also contact the Johnson County District Attorney's Consumer Hotline at 913-715-3003 with any questions or concerns.

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