



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey  
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Rockford Police Issue IRS Phone Scam Advisory**

**ROCKFORD, ILL.** – The Rockford Police Department has issued an advisory regarding recent reports of IRS Phone Scammers. Reports indicate persistent and aggressive callers, often targeting the elderly and demanding payment.

The IRS has posted information on its [website](#), in part advising filers to “not be fooled by callers pretending to be from the IRS in an attempt to steal your money.” Citizens who owe or think they may owe taxes may contact the IRS at 800-829-1040 and an IRS workers will assist.

The IRS website notes that the agency will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill;
- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe;
- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card;
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone; or
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

Citizens who receive phone calls from someone claiming to be from the IRS asking for money, that have already paid outstanding taxes or do not owe monies, may report suspicious behavior by calling the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484 or via the webpage [IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#), or report it to the Federal Trade Commission using the [FTC Complaint Assistant](#) notating “IRS Telephone Scam” in the notes.

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