



PALOS VERDES ESTATES

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME REPORT

Feb. 2-8, 2016

SCAM USING "ID SPOOFING TACTICS"

On Thursday, 02-04-2016, an officer was dispatched to the PVEPD Lobby in reference to a report of Theft by False Pretenses.

Unknown suspect(s) contact victim via telephone and advise her that she owes the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) \$7,985.36 in back taxes. Victim then purchases the amount listed in prepaid debit cards and provides the debit cards numbers to suspect(s).

Victim received a voicemail to her home phone from an "Officer Nicky Johnson" of the IRS from telephone number 415-376-1458, advising her to call him back. When the victim attempted to contact "Johnson", via cell phone, subject did not answer. The victim then received a call (305-224-1669) from a second subject on her cell phone, who claimed he worked for the IRS. The subject advised the victim that she had been audited and owed the IRS \$7,985.36 from her 2011-2012 taxes. Further, he advised the victim that it was a time sensitive issue, and if not paid immediately they would be arrested by the police.

At that time, the victim received a call from (*310-378-4211) by a female subject, alleging to be from the PVEPD. The subject advised the victim that officers would be waiting at their residence when they arrived home if they did not pay the money owed to the IRS immediately.

NOTE FROM THE PVE PD:

Current technology can aid criminals in making these types of calls and have it appear to be from any number they select.

*In the above case our own Business Phone Line at PVE PD.

IRS Urges Public to Stay Alert for Scam Phone Calls

IRS Special Edition Tax Tip 2015-18, October 21, 2015

The IRS continues to warn consumers to guard against scam phone calls from thieves intent on stealing their money or their identity. Criminals pose as the IRS to trick victims out of their money or personal information. Here are several tips to help you avoid being a victim of these scams:

- **Scammers make unsolicited calls.** Thieves call taxpayers claiming to be IRS officials. They demand that the victim pay a bogus tax bill. They con the victim into sending cash, usually through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may also leave “urgent” callback requests through phone “robo-calls,” or via [phishing email](#).
- **Callers try to scare their victims.** Many phone scams use threats to intimidate and bully a victim into paying. They may even threaten to arrest, deport or revoke the license of their victim if they don’t get the money.
- **Scams use caller ID spoofing.** Scammers often alter caller ID to make it look like the IRS or another agency is calling. The callers use IRS titles and fake badge numbers to appear legitimate. They may use the victim’s name, address and other personal information to make the call sound official.
- **Cons try new tricks all the time.** Some schemes provide an actual IRS address where they tell the victim to mail a receipt for the payment they make. Others use emails that contain a fake IRS document with a phone number or an email address for a reply. These scams often use official IRS letterhead in emails or regular mail that they send to their victims. They try these ploys to make the ruse look official.
- **Scams cost victims over \$23 million.** The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, or TIGTA, has received reports of about 736,000 scam contacts since October 2013. Nearly 4,550 victims have collectively paid over \$23 million as a result of the scam.

The IRS will not:

- Call you to demand immediate payment. The IRS will not call you if you owe taxes without first sending you a bill in the mail.
- Demand that you pay taxes and not allow you to question or appeal the amount you owe.
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way. For instance, require that you pay with a prepaid debit card.

- Ask for your credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in police or other agencies to arrest you for not paying.

If you don't owe taxes, or have no reason to think that you do:

- Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.
- Contact TIGTA to report the call. Use their "[IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting](#)" web page. You can also call 800-366-4484.
- Report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the "[FTC Complaint Assistant](#)" on FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

If you know you owe, or think you may owe tax:

- Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you.

Phone scams first tried to sting older people, new immigrants to the U.S. and those who speak English as a second language. Now the crooks try to swindle just about anyone. And they've ripped-off people in every state in the nation.

Stay alert to scams that use the IRS as a lure. Tax scams can happen any time of year, not just at tax time. For more, visit "[Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts](#)" on IRS.gov.

Each and every taxpayer has a set of fundamental rights they should be aware of when dealing with the IRS. These are your [Taxpayer Bill of Rights](#). Explore your rights and our obligations to protect them on IRS.gov.

CITY NEWS

All American Asphalt will be performing work as follows, weather permitting:

Thursday, 2/11

Slurry seal on:

- Via Margate
- Via Boronada (1500 block)
- Half of Via Coronel (from Via Olivera to Via Zurita)

- Via Descanso

Friday, 2/11

- Miscellaneous Cleanup on Various Streets (no major closures)

Monday, 2/15

- Holiday – No Work

Tuesday, 2/16

Slurry seal on:

- Via Castilla (from Via Zumaya to cul de sac)
- Via Barcelona
- Via Valdes
- Via Davalos

Slurry seal will require full street closures, except on Via Coronel where ½ the roadway will remain open.

Traffic striping and miscellaneous clean-up will occur on all project streets the remainder of next week as well.

PLANNED POWER OUTAGES – February 8-14, 2016

SCE will soon be performing maintenance on the electrical system in the area. In order to perform this work safely, SCE must temporarily turn off power. This outage will allow them to modernize our grid by making needed upgrades and repairs to increase their reliability. We realize that power outages may cause some inconvenience, therefore SCE try to isolate outages down to the smallest area possible and complete the work safely and as quickly as they can. We appreciate your understanding as we work to

increase system reliability for the future.

Outage Status: Scheduled
Outage Alert Num: 746032
Starting at: February 15, 2016 8:15 a.m.
Ending at: February 15, 2016 3:00 p.m.
of Residential customers affected: 45
of Commercial customers affected: 1
of Traffic Control meters affected: 0
Outage Boundary: VIA ACALONES PROPERTY LINE 53^aN.135^aNEAST OF VIA NOGALES/PV

*Please note that the power may be off for the whole period or may be turned off more than once. This planned outage may not begin exactly at the stated start time, and some conditions may cause this planned outage to be postponed. The times noted are our best estimate and circumstances may affect both the start time and the completion time indicated above. For current planned outage status, please visit www.sce.com/reliability and enter the outage number(s) above.

YOU ARE INVITED

Here is your invitation to attend Assemblyman David Hadley's Peninsula Town Hall, with a Spotlight on seniors.

On Topic: Issues of interest to seniors: Transportation, Scams and Safety, and Technology

Featuring:

Mayor Ken Dyda, Rancho Palos Verdes

Mayor Jeff Pieper, Rolling Hills

Mayor Steve Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates

Mayor Pro-Tem Jennifer L. King, Palos Verdes Estates

Thursday February 18, 2016

4:30 to 6:30 pm

Hesse Park

29301 Hawthorne Blvd.

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA