



IRS SCAM ALERT

Recently, the Sunapee Police Department has taken several reports of a telephone scam that has become increasingly prevalent over the past year. The scam involves a direct phone call or a message that is left for a potential victim from a caller stating he is from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The message demands past-due taxes be paid and aggressively threatens arrest if a call back is not received. The message also often provides an 800 number to respond to. Fortunately, most people instantly recognize the call or message to be a scam and do not fall victim to it. **The Internal Revenue Service would never contact anyone by telephone.** However, people have become victims of the caller's aggressive and intimidating tactics and actually call back using the number provided, believing that they are speaking with a representative of the IRS and unwittingly providing payment information and/or personal information, this being the objective of the scam.

The Sunapee Police Department would like to get the word out about the existence of this aggressive scam. For further information about this scam, the IRS has a Consumer Alert article at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Scams-Consumer-Alerts>. There are also other IRS Consumer Alerts at this website and a YouTube video made by the IRS concerning scams. The web address for the video is: <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/Scam-Phone-Calls-Continue-IRS-Unveils-New-Video-to-Warn-Taxpayers>.