

Beware of Bogus IRS E-mail Scams

SAC clients should be aware that suspicious e-mail correspondence messages have been circulating the internet claiming to from an Internal Revenue Service representative. Be advised that these are bogus e-mail messages - the IRS will never initiate taxpayer communication via the internet. If you are the recipient of any such e-mail correspondence, these should be DELETED. Do not open any attachments or reply to the e-mail.

Recently, an SAC client was the recipient of just such an e-mail scam. Fortunately, the client contacted our office for advice. The e-mail claimed to be from the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System ("EFTPS") and stated that a federal tax payment made by the business has been "rejected". The recipient was then instructed to follow a link to find out more information and asked for personal information.

This type of e-mail is known as a "phishing scam" and is not from the EFTPS or from the IRS. The link appears to be from a legitimate website. However the scam is intended to steal your personal information by logging on to the system and providing personal and financial details. All of this information can be used for fraud and identity theft.

Another type of e-mail scam being circulated via the internet is one informing the taxpayer of a refund as shown below:

From: Internal Revenue Service [mailto:admin@irs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2006 12:45 PM
To: john.doe@jdoe.com
Subject: IRS Notification - Please Read This

After the last annual calculations of your fiscal activity we have determined that you are eligible to receive a tax refund of **\$63.80**. Please submit the tax refund request and allow us 6-9 days in order to process it. A refund can be delayed for a variety of reasons. For example submitting invalid records or applying after the deadline. To access the form for your tax refund, please [click here](#)

Regards,

Internal Revenue Service

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The IRS urges anyone in receipt of these types of e-mail messages to ignore and delete them. It is also advised that you do not click on any of the links or download any attachments. We want to reiterate, the IRS does not send unsolicited e-mail correspondence requesting your detailed personal or financial information. Instead, you can forward these e-mail messages to the new IRS mailbox at: phishing@irs.gov.