

# Identity Theft



**Tax-related identity theft** occurs when someone uses your stolen personal information to file a fraudulent tax return claiming a refund. Identity thieves use various scams to trick users into giving up passwords and other information.

## Don't take the bait.

The IRS will **NEVER**:



**Initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text or social media to request personal or financial information**



**Call taxpayers with threats of lawsuits or arrests**



**Call, email or text to request taxpayers' Identity Protection PINs**

Report scams to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). | [www.irs.gov/alerts](http://www.irs.gov/alerts)