

## **Arizona Residents Receive Suspicious IRS Calls**

### **BBB Shares IRS' Tips on How to Spot a Scam Call**

**(Yuma, AZ - November 25, 2014)** Consumers report receiving calls from someone posing as the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) demanding money and/or attempting to collect personal information. Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns consumers the calls are a scam, as con artists alter the caller ID to make it seem as if the call is coming from the IRS.

According to consumers, the caller references personal information and may even use a bogus IRS identification or badge number to build credibility. Due to the increase in calls from consumers across the state, BBB shares tips from the [IRS](#) to help identify a scam.

There are five things scammers usually do that the IRS does not. **The IRS will never:**

- 1.** Call to demand immediate payment; nor call about taxes owed without first mailing a bill.
- 2.** Demand that you pay taxes without providing the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed.
- 3.** Require a specific payment method be used for taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
- 4.** Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- 5.** Threaten to contact local police - or another law-enforcement group - to arrest you for not paying.

If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS asking for money, you should:

- Hang up and call the IRS directly at 800-829-1040, especially if you know you owe taxes or think you might.
- Report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484 or [tigta.gov](http://tigta.gov), especially if you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe you do.

- File a complaint through the [FTC Complaint Assistant](#). If the complaint involves someone impersonating the IRS, include the words "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

For more information on tax scams, visit [irs.gov](https://irs.gov) and type "scam" in the search box. You may also contact your BBB at [bbb.org](https://bbb.org) for consumer tips you can trust.