

## SCAM OF THE WEEK: Realistic Phishing Attacks Take Advantage of U.S. Tax Season

**ALERT:** Tax season scams are peaking. So, when you get any email or even a phone call about your taxes, or questions about your W2 from literally anybody, whether you know them or not, pick up the phone and verify with your known, trusted tax preparer that they actually sent you that email. If you send tax information via email, triple-check that the email address you are sending this to, is correct and type it in yourself in the "To" field.

NEVER click on "reply" and attach your tax information, because that reply email address might be spoofed. Want to be 100% safe? Hand-carry your tax info to your preparer and do the tax return in person with them.

Here is a link to the IRS site, with more tax scams you need to watch out for:

<https://www.irs.gov/uac/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>

Here is a link what to do to get your money back if your tax refund already \*has\* been stolen:

<http://time.com/money/3709141/stolen-tax-refund/>