



HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

TYPE OF INCIDENT Internal Revenue Scam		CASE NUMBER	
DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT On Going	LOCATION OF INCIDENT		
VICTIM	AGE	CITY	
RESPONSIBLE Unknown	AGE	CITY	
ARRESTED?	CHARGE	BAIL	
SUMMARY			

Hercules Police Department continues to receive several calls a day concerning the ongoing IRS Scam. Residents have indicate they have received a threatening call from an **“IRS Agent”**. The phony agent threatens them with arrest, outrageous fines, and other penalties unless residents immediately pays. The fake agent tells his “mark” to obtain pre-paid credit card; furnish a credit card account number; deposit money into a bank account; or other forms of payment. The caller tries to get the victim to verify their personal information (Social Security number, etc.). The caller says things like “There is a warrant out for your arrest”; “The police are on their way to your house right now”; or “Child Protective Services are on the way to your child’s school and you will never see them again”. These people use numerous scare tactics to try to get the victim’s money.

Fortunately most of the callers, to Hercules Police Department, have not become actual victims, but are very upset about calls. They call the police, or come into the Police Department to make sure they are not going to be arrested.

The Federal Trade Commission, which goes after scammers like these from a civil standpoint; and the Treasury Department, which leads the criminal probe, both have open investigations. Both agencies believe the thieves are operating out of India, using phishing technology to make it appear they’re IRS agents in Washington.

Nationally, federal authorities say it’s the largest IRS impersonation scam they’ve ever seen -- swindling victims out of more than \$15 million since it began in 2013.

The Hercules Police Department wants to inform our citizens concerning this Scam. The **IRS DOES NOT CALL CITIZENS DEMANDING MONEY**. If you receive such a call do not provide, or verify, any personal information and **DO NOT** send them any money. If you are in doubt, call the IRS directly, or call your local Police Department

PREPARED BY Connie Van Putten, Reserve Detective and PIO Desk: 510-799-8268	DATE 03-25-2015
---	---------------------------

Cell 520-221-1052
