



ONEIDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Grady M. Hartman
Sheriff

Daniel L. Hess
Chief Deputy



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – April 17, 2019

The Oneida County Sheriff's Office would like to inform everyone that scams continue to be attempted towards individuals in Oneida County, and the surrounding areas. Northern Wisconsin is not singled out in these instances; as scams continue to occur across the United States.

Some of the scammers pretend to be agents of the IRS, and threaten individuals with a lawsuit or arrest. Scammers sometimes ask you to contact them right away to set up payment options. They can be demanding and threatening – and do not reflect how the IRS handles enforcement matters. The IRS will not call you to demand payment using a prepaid debit card, gift card, or wire transfer. The IRS does not demand that you pay taxes without the opportunity to ask questions or appeal. The IRS does not threaten to bring in local police, immigration officers, or other law enforcement agencies to arrest people for not paying. Normal correspondence from the IRS will usually begin with a letter in the mail from the United States Postal Service. **DO NOT** provide any personal or identifying information to unverified sources over the phone.

Several scam calls have been originating from what appears to be a local telephone number. Do not let a call from a local telephone number fool you, as some sophisticated scamming organizations have the ability to make their telephone number appear local, when in fact they might actually be calling from outside the country. These organizations have been known to inquire about social security and driver's license information. Some individuals have reported receiving numerous calls from someone claiming to be from Microsoft, and are being told that their IP address was invalidated. Do not provide information over the phone, even if the caller has some partially detailed information about you.

Finally, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office continues to be notified about scam calls where the scammer pretends to be the individual's grandchild or relative, and in need of money. You might be given several different reasons for the need for money, which have included the grandchild being in a car accident, or being in jail.



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These requests for money oftentimes ask the person being scammed to send money through wire transfer or by other unconventional means.

Please remember to be cautious whenever you are asked for personal information, or money over the phone.

For further information on scam related incidents, please direct your questions to Community Resource Deputy Terry Pockat, telephone number 715-361-5100.