

MAINE TAX ALERT

A Publication of Maine Revenue Services ("MRS") for Tax Professionals

Volume 32, Issue 15

May 2022 - #2

Attorney General Warns Mainers About \$850 Relief Check Identity Theft Scam

Scammers Pretending to Represent Revenue Services Stealing Identifying Information from Unsuspecting Mainers

This article was previously announced in the Press Release issued by the Maine Attorney General's Office on May 13, 2022, which can be viewed at: http://www.maine.gov/ag/news/article.shtml?id=7647385.

The Attorney General's Office and Maine Revenue Services have been alerted that scammers claiming to be the "Maine IRS" have been targeting residents and requesting social security numbers, maiden names, and other sensitive information, stating it was needed to process \$850 relief checks authorized by the Governor and the legislature last month.

"Maine Revenue Services already has all the information it needs to issue these relief checks, so no one should need to share any information to collect this check," said Attorney General Aaron Frey. "As always, do not share any identifying information with anyone demanding such information over the phone without independently confirming their identity."

Eligibility for the \$850 relief checks is based upon the 2021 Maine individual income tax return. Relief checks will be mailed via U.S. Postal Service to the address provided on your 2021 Maine individual income tax return and will be redirected to any forwarding addresses filed with the U.S. Postal Service. The first round of relief checks will be mailed in June 2022 – and will be delivered on a rolling basis through the end of the year as returns are received.

If you need to report an identity theft, or for more information about preventing identity theft, please visit: <u>https://www.maine.gov/ag/privacy/identity_theft.shtml</u>.

For assistance identifying free tax help, low- and middle-income Maine taxpayers may visit <u>www.cashmaine.org</u>, call 2-1-1, or visit <u>211maine.org</u>.

Careers and Internships at MRS

MRS' mission is to fairly and efficiently administer the State's tax laws with integrity and professionalism.

MRS is looking for smart, motivated, and team oriented people to join our team. Benefits include:

- Qualifying employer for federal student loan forgiveness
- Tuition reimbursement for continuing education (including CPA exam)
- Public service
- Competitive salary
- MainePERS retirement plan and deferred compensation
- Generous insurance and paid leave (including all state holidays)
- Flexible spending accounts and longevity pay
- Gym membership reimbursement

Regularly posted, full-time positions at MRS include the Tax Examiner and Revenue Agent positions. Click the following link for more information about these positions: <u>https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/bhrsalary/jobs.pl</u>.

Click the following link for more information about careers and paid internships and to sign up to receive notifications of new MRS job openings: <u>www.maine.gov/revenue/careers</u>.

Fraud Alert

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If you believe you are a victim of identity theft or that a breach of personally identifiable information has occurred, contact MRS at (207) 624-7658 or email <u>fraudalert.mrs@maine.gov</u> as soon as possible. Timely notification assists MRS in preventing fraudulent tax refunds.

<u>Department</u>	Telephone Numbers	FAX Numbers	<u>E-mail Addresses</u>
Taxpayer Contact Center	(207) 624-9784	(207) 287-6975	<u>taxpayerassist@maine.gov</u>
Central Registration	(207) 624-9784	(207) 287-6975	taxpayerassist@maine.gov
Collections & Compliance	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	compliance.tax@maine.gov
Corporate Tax	(207) 624-9670	(207) 624-9694	corporate.tax@maine.gov
E-file Help Desk (1040 ONLY)	(207) 624-9730	(207) 287-6628	efile.helpdesk@maine.gov
Electronic Funds Transfer	(207) 624-5625	(207) 287-3618	efunds.transfer@maine.gov
Estate & Fiduciary Tax	(207) 626-8480	(207) 624-9694	estatetax@maine.gov
Fuel & Special Taxes	(207) 624-9609	(207) 287-6628	fuel.tax@maine.gov
Forms Request Line	(207) 624-7894		
Individual Income Tax Assistance	(207) 626-8475	(207) 624-9694	income.tax@maine.gov
Insurance Premium Tax	(207) 624-9753	(207) 624-9694	
NexTalk (TTY Service)	(888) 577-6690		
Payment Plan/Income Tax	(207) 621-4300	(207) 621-4328	<u>compliance.tax@maine.gov</u>
Payment Plan/Other	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	compliance.tax@maine.gov
Practitioners' Hotline	(207) 626-8458	(207) 624-9694	
Property Tax	(207) 624-5600	(207) 287-6396	prop.tax@maine.gov
Public Communications	(207) 626-8478	(207) 624-9694	
Sales Tax	(207) 624-9693	(207) 287-6628	sales.tax@maine.gov
Tax Clearance Letters	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	
Office of Tax Policy	(207) 624-9677	(207) 287-3618	
Taxpayer Advocate	(207) 624-9649	(207) 287-3618	taxpayer.advocate@maine.gov
Withholding Tax	(207) 626-8475	(207) 624-9694	withholding.tax@maine.gov
Tax Violations Hot Line	(207) 624-9600	` '	

This publication is designed to keep taxpayers, tax practitioners and the general public informed of developments, problems, questions and matters of general interest concerning Maine tax law, policy, and procedure. The articles in this newsletter are not designed to address complex issues in detail, and they are not a substitute for Maine tax laws and/or regulations.

Suggestions for the Tax Alert?

Please contact: Maine Revenue Services PO Box 1060 Augusta, Maine 04332-1060