



COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**



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<http://www.facebook.com/montcosheriff>

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SCAM ALERT: November 17, 2014

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Beware of IRS scammers calling and posing as sheriff's deputies

Norristown, Pa., (November 17, 2014) – Convincing con artists posing as sheriff's deputies are attempting to scam taxpayers with intimidating phone calls demanding cash or personal information. Recent victims who called District Attorney Risa Ferman's office said the scammers tried to intimidate them with threats that either the IRS is coming after them for unpaid taxes, or that there is a warrant out for their arrest.

Scammers are using sophisticated methods such as identifying themselves with titles and ranks, and leaving voice mail messages with "spoofing" caller ids, so that it matches the authenticity of a call from the Sheriff's Office.

"I want to make sure that citizens know how to identify a scammer and, if they've been contacted by one, know where to report it," said Bono. "The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office never makes phone calls regarding IRS matters and we don't collect personal information over the phone."

In response to the ongoing scam activity, the Sheriff's Office will be adding a scam notification section to their website where residents can always have access to information for recognizing and reporting these types of crimes.

"It is a serious crime to impersonate a law enforcement officer," said Montgomery County Sheriff Russell Bono. "It destroys the trust that our citizens have for their law enforcement officers."

Victims of scams or residents who have received calls from scammers should immediately call their local police department or the Montgomery County Detectives Bureau at 610-278-3368 for further investigation.

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