



SCAM ALERT

Scam: Tax Season W-2 Emails Target: All Seniors

Tax scams abound this time of year as W2 forms are being issued, scam artists are taking advantage of the tax season to fool people into downloading malware in an attempt to obtain your personal information. The scam begins through your email. You receive an email from someone you do not know personally, but it looks like an official company message. The email may have a subject line similar to this: "Document Received (Scanned_1040_W2.pdf)." The email contains a link to an alleged "secure file" that appears to be shared via a reputable file sharing service. The message asks you to click the link and make sure your personal information is correct. This is a scam!

Do not click the link! Unsolicited emails like these are simply attempts to steal your personal information. The link leads to a third-party website, which may infect your computer with malware and give the scam artist access to your personal information!

Scam Artists attempt to obtain your personal information through W-2 tax scam!

The Better Business Bureau offers these suggestions to avoid tax season scams:

- 🔊 Be extremely cautious when sharing your personal information. Never give your personal information, such as bank account, credit card, or Social Security number, to someone you do not know personally.
- 🔊 Never click on links in unsolicited emails. If you did not ask to be contacted or you do not know who sent you the email, do not click the link.
- 🔊 Hover over the link to see the true destination if you are unsure.
- 🔊 Delete the email while it is still showing "unread" if possible.
- 🔊 Remember that all tax communications are sent via U.S. Mail.

Additional information and resources as well as tips to stay current on issues related to taxes and fraud prevention may be found at <https://www.irs.gov>.

**If you think you may be a victim of a scam, contact
San Bernardino County Adult Protective Services (APS) at
877-565-2020, or your local police department.**