



## ***IRS Phishing E-Mails - Tax Refunds***

The Internal Revenue Service and the Internet Crime Complaint Center have issued consumer alerts about an Internet scam in which consumers receive an e-mail informing them of a tax refund. One e-mail, which claims to be from the IRS, tells the recipient that they are eligible to receive a tax refund for a given amount. It then directs the consumer to a link that requests personal information, such as Social Security number and credit card information.

Another e-mail titled “Refund Notice” claims to provide information to recipients regarding the status of their IRS Tax Refunds. The e-mail contains a link, which mirrors the true IRS web site.

This site purportedly allows recipients to check the status of their IRS tax refund after providing the following information:

- First and last name
- Social Security Number or IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number
- Credit card information

The IRS has seen numerous attempts over the years to defraud the public and the federal government through a variety of schemes, including abusive tax avoidance transactions, identity theft, claims for slavery reparations, frivolous arguments and more.

More information on these schemes may be found on the criminal enforcement page at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

*The IRS does not ask for personal identifying or financial information via unsolicited e-mail.*