

# Phone scammers are posing as the IRS

# HANG UP!



## How will the IRS first contact you?

Phone call?	NO
Email?	NO
Letter by mail?	YES

## Beware the Tricks of the Scammer

**POSES** as IRS personnel, law enforcement, or other state or federal agencies

**ALTERS** caller ID to appear to be the IRS

**EMAILS** bogus IRS messages

**APPEARS** legitimate by knowing your personal information, such as Social Security Number and birthdate

**USES** hostile language to intimidate

**THREATENS** arrest and lawsuits

**CREATES** urgency — “Pay now or else!”

**DEMANDS** payment using a prepaid debit card or asks for your credit card account

## What You Should Do If Contacted

**HANG UP** immediately if contacted by phone. Do **NOT** engage the caller in conversation.

**DELETE** the email if contacted online.

- Do **NOT** reply.
- Do **NOT** open attachments.
- Do **NOT** click on links.

**REPORT** scam calls to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at <https://www.treasury.gov/tigta>.

**BE ALERT** to scammers posing as personnel from the Vermont Department of Taxes. Learn more about cyber-crime, identity theft, and fraud at [www.bit.ly/idtheftfraud](http://www.bit.ly/idtheftfraud).

Disclaimer: This infographic is intended to provide an overview only. Vermont tax statutes, regulations, Vermont Department of Taxes rulings, or court decisions supersede information provided in this infographic.

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