

\$5.8 Billion

The estimate of the amount of fraudulent refunds paid by the Internal Revenue Service in 2013.

Source: GAO-15-119 Identity Theft



Help your employer groups recognize Tax Identity Theft!

- “Tax-related identity theft occurs when someone uses your stolen Social Security number to file a tax return claiming a fraudulent refund.” Source: www.irs.gov
- Income tax return fraud is on the rise! In Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, the IRS initiated approximately 1,492 identity theft related criminal investigations, up from 276 just two years prior.

Warning Signs of Tax Fraud:

- Unable to file tax return electronically
- Receipt of an IRS notice indicating:
- More than one return received with the same SSN
- Additional taxes owed or refund offset
- Record received that indicates the victim earned income from an employer unknown to them

Proper Responses By Victim:

- Print your tax return and submit by mail
- Complete IRS form 14039 and submit
- Open all postal mail from the IRS and review
- Call IDShield with any questions or concerns

Watch for Scams! The IRS will not:

- Ask you to wire money or purchase pre-paid debit cards to make a payment
- Threaten you by phone, email or text
- Contact you by text, email or social media requesting payment

