

## ALSIP NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Working Together To Make Alsip A Great Place To Live

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### INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE WARNS OF PHONE SCAMS

In recent weeks the Alsip Police Department has had several reports of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) phone caller scams. The IRS has issued a warning and tips to avoid being scammed.

Callers claiming to be from the IRS tell intended victims they owe taxes and must pay using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The scammers threaten those who refuse to pay with arrest, deportation, or loss of a business or driver's license.

The callers who commit this fraud often:

- Use common names and fake IRS badge numbers
- Know the last 4 digits of victims social security #
- Make caller ID appear as if the IRS is calling
- Send bogus IRS emails to support their scam
- Call a second time claiming to be the police or other government agency

The truth is the IRS usually



first contacts people by mail – *NOT BY PHONE* – about unpaid taxes. The IRS won't ask for payment using a pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The agency also won't ask for a credit card number over the phone.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be with the IRS asking for payment, here's what to do:

- If you owe, or think you may owe federal taxes, hang up and call the IRS at 800-829-1040
- If you don't owe taxes, call and report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Admin: 800-366-4484
- You can also file a

complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at [FTC.gov](http://FTC.gov). Add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments in your complaint.

Be alert for phone and email scams that use the IRS name. The IRS will never request personal or financial information by email, texting or any social media. You should forward scam emails to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov). Don't open attachments or click on any links in those emails.

Read more about tax scams on the genuine IRS website: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

Source: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

### New and Revised Laws for 2017

Here are some of the highlights:

- **Increased Fines** – Failing to stop at a railroad crossing is now \$500 for a first violation and \$1,000 for the second
- **License Plates** – Required to be clearly visible
- **Vehicle Registration** – Vehicle owners may select their birthday as the vehicle's registration expiration date
- **Motorcycle's** rear lights may be blue

\*\*For additional information visit [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov)

Lock Out Crime  
– Protect your  
home from  
intruders

Use sturdy  
doors

Use safe locks

Install a  
viewfinder

Consider  
window pegs

Secure sliding  
glass doors

Consider  
various outdoor  
lighting options

Never allow  
strangers into  
your home

Put some  
electrical  
equipment on  
timers

## Burglary From Motor Vehicle

**1-18: 5000 BLK 118<sup>th</sup> ST.:** Unknown subject stole pistol, ammunition, and tools from unlocked vehicle.

**1-19: 11600 BLK LARAMIE:** Wallet stolen from unlocked vehicle by unknown subject

**1-20: 11300 BLK PEACH TREE LN.:** Unknown subject stole pistol and wallet from center counsel of unlocked vehicle

**1-23: 12000 BLK CICERO:** Unknown subject stole tool bag and multiple tools from truck parked in lot; forced entry

**1-24: 11700 BLK MAYFIELD:** In dash radio stolen from unlocked vehicle; unknown subject

**1-29: 11400 BLK AVON:** Unlocked vehicle entered and loose change stolen

## Burglary – Residential

**1-2: 11700 BLK LECLAIRE:** Unknown items stolen from residence; Unknown subject posing as a construction worker lured victim out of home

## Criminal Damage & Defacement to Property

**1-1: 11500 BLK VILLA CT.:** Vehicle parked in lot scratched on trunk and bumper

**1-2: 11500 BLK KOLIN:** Driver's side window shattered on vehicle parked on street

**1-3: 12200 BLK SPRINGFIELD:** Door lock on vehicle damaged by unknown subject

**1-29: 11500 BLK VILLA CT.:** Victims computer damaged by unknown subject

## Identity Theft Crimes

**1-12: 12100 BLK JAMES DR.:** Unauthorized transactions made using victims account

**1-18: 12400 BLK ORCHARD:** Unauthorized transactions to victims account by using personal information

**1-23: 11800 BLK KEELER:** Victims personal information used to open account

Fighting Back Against Identity Theft

**Deter  
Detect  
Defend**

**Safe guard your personal information**

**Routinely monitor your financial accounts and billing statements**

**Defend against ID Theft as soon as you suspect it**

**Visit  
AnnualCreditReport.com  
or call 877-322-8228,  
to order your free credit reports each year.**

## Motor Vehicle Thefts

**1-24: 3900 BLK 115<sup>th</sup> PLACE:** Gold Chevrolet stolen from parking lot

## Theft Over/Under \$500.00

**1-4: 4600 BLK 115<sup>th</sup> PL.:** (3) gift cards stolen; restitution made

**1-5: 3600 BLK BENCK DR.:** Tree trimmer stolen from back yard by unknown subject(s)

**1-12: 12800 BLK KENNETH:** Prescription stolen from bedroom; suspects named

**1-20: 12800 BLK KENNETH:** Jewelry stolen from bedroom; suspects named

**1-31: 4500 BLK HOWDY LN.:** Package delivered to residence stolen by unknown subject



Awareness is the Key to Your Safety.

### VILLAGE OF ALSIP DIRECTORY

ALSIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY.....911

Police Non-Emergency.....708-385-6902

Crime Prevention Unit.....708-385-6902 x249

Crime Free Housing Program.....708-385-6902 x249

Village of Alsip Departments

Building/Clerks/Water Department.....708-385-6902

Fire Department Non-Emergency.....708-385-6902 x233

Health Department.....708-385-6902 x336

Public Works Department.....708-385-6902 x364

We're on the Web!

[www.alsippolicedepartment.com](http://www.alsippolicedepartment.com)

### Child Fingerprint ID Kits at Community Expo

The Alsip Police Department will once again be participating in the Alsip Chamber of Commerce 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Expo, providing Child ID Kits, on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 9:30am to 3:30pm at Prairie Junior High School located at 11910 S. Kostner Ave., Alsip, IL.

Look for the police department booth staffed by the Crime Prevention Unit when you arrive. Your children will be fingerprinted

on a Child ID kit provided by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

Child ID kits are a great way to maintain up-to-date information about your child that you can provide to law enforcement if your child is missing.

If you believe that your child is missing from home, search your home thoroughly, including vehicles, large appliances, and anywhere your child may crawl and



hide. Immediately call your local law enforcement agency.

Visit [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com) for more safety tips. Come see the police department booth at the community expo and please take time to talk to your children about child safety.

