



**Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Larry Ashley**



**SCAM ALERT!
IRS SCAMS**

There is a new IRS scam circulating in Okaloosa County. The con-artists calls or emails someone saying they owe money to the IRS and gives them directions on paying by getting a "Green Dot Card." Then the con-artist informs the citizens if they do not pay the money owed today, they will be arrested.

There are more scams concerning tax returns circulating involving paying money owed, rebates, audits and variations of the IRS name with companies or individuals using the IRS acronym, but with different words (ex. Internal Refund Service).

If you receive an email from someone claiming to be from the IRS forward the email to phishing@irs.gov.

Important things to remember:

- The IRS will **NOT** contact you via the telephone or e-mail.
- The IRS will **not** contact you about your tax return by phone or email.
- The IRS will use the mailing address you place on your return.
- Use direct deposit into your checking account for tax returns.

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be with the IRS, hang-up and call the IRS at 1-800-366-4484.

To learn more about scams involving the IRS go to www.irs.gov. For more ways you can protect yourself from con-artists visit the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention web site at www.sheriff-okaloosa.org To receive the Sheriff's Office Fraud Alerts email Crime Prevention Manager Ashley Bailey abailey@sheriff-okaloosa.org

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**To report a fraud or scam call the
Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office
Crime Prevention Unit at
850-651-7410**

