

# *Sy Accountancy Corporation*

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## 10 IRS TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT

(TIPS FROM THE IRS)

1. If you receive a letter or notice from the IRS which leads you to believe that someone may have **fraudulently used your Social Security Number**, respond immediately to the name and address or phone number printed on the IRS notice.
2. If you receive a letter from the IRS that indicates **more than one tax return was filed for you**, this may be a sign that your SSN was used fraudulently by someone else.
3. Another sign that you may be the target of identity theft is an IRS letter indicating that you received **wages from an employer unknown to you**.
4. The IRS has a department which deals specifically with identity theft issues: the **IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit**.
5. You can contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit by calling the Identity Theft Hotline at 800-908-4490 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm local time.
6. The IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit is also available if you believe your identity may be at risk of being stolen due to a **lost or stolen purse or wallet** or due to a questionable activity on your credit card or your credit report.
7. The IRS **never** initiates communication with taxpayers about their tax account through emails. If you receive an e-mail or find a Web site you think is **pretending to be the IRS**, forward the e-mail or Web site URL to the IRS at [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).
8. The IRS has many more resources available to help inform taxpayers about identity theft on the IRS Web site at [www.IRS.gov](http://www.IRS.gov). On IRS.gov you can access information on how to report scams and bogus IRS Web sites. You can also visit the IRS Identity Theft Resource Page, which you can find by typing Identity Theft Resource Page in the search box on the IRS.gov home page.
9. The Federal Trade Commission is also available to assist taxpayers with identity theft issues. You can reach them at **877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338)**.
10. Visit [www.OnGuardOnline.gov](http://www.OnGuardOnline.gov) for protection tips from the federal government and the technology industry.