



Scam Alert: Watch Out for Tax ID Theft

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

The U.S. tax season is here, and so are the scammers. Con artists are using the Social Security numbers of unsuspecting Americans to file phony tax returns and steal their refunds. In honor of the Federal Trade Commission's [Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week](#), be on the lookout for this and other tax season scams.

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12 Tax Tips Made for Military Life

BY MILITARY ONESOURCE

As a service member, the tax implications of combat pay, deployment or multiple moves can be daunting. [Military OneSource MilTax services](#) – designed specifically for military life – can make tax time easier– and help maximize your tax refund.

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Tips to Save Money and Heartache This Tax Season

BY LILA QUINTILIANI, MILITARY SAVES

Military families face additional obstacles at tax time: they may not know about certain military-specific tax provisions that can benefit them, and they are also susceptible to certain tax schemes that target the military community. Here are some important tips to keep in mind for this tax season.

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BBB Tip: Data Privacy

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

The possibility of a cyberattack by a foreign country has gone from being the stuff of science fiction to a common threat that we hear about in the news media almost daily. While it may seem like there is nothing an individual can do to thwart a cyberattack, there are some best practices that can help you be better prepared for the possibility.

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BBB Tip: How to Stop and Spot Robocalls

BY BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Robocalls are being classified as an annoying epidemic for both consumers and businesses. Now, there's [new United States legislation](#) to tackle the problem. Americans' phones rang 5 billion times in the month of November 2019 just from robocalls alone - almost 2,000 calls per second.

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Mobile Payment Apps: How to Avoid a Scam When You Use One

BY LISA LAKE, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Mobile payment apps can be a convenient way to send and receive money with your smartphone. These apps have become very popular — and scammers may try to use them to steal your money. Find out how mobile payment apps work and how to avoid sending money to a scammer.

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The Top Frauds of 2019

BY MONICA VACA, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Each year, the FTC takes a hard look at the number of reports people make to our Consumer Sentinel Network. In fact, during 2019, we got more than 3.2 million reports to the FTC from you. We've read what you've said, and crunched the numbers. Here's what you told us in 2019.

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Don't Be Scammed — Part 1: Be Alert

BY SHANE OSTROM, MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

This is the first in a three-part series on avoiding financial fraud of all types. Here are some universal lessons to stay alert.



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VETERANS BENEFITS BANKING PROGRAM

Veterans and their beneficiaries now have additional options for receiving VA benefits via direct deposit, as well as access to financial services at participating banks.



VA Introduces New Direct Deposit Options for Veterans and Beneficiaries

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in partnership with the [Association of Military Banks of America \(AMBA\)](#), launched the [Veterans Benefits Banking Program \(VBBP\)](#). The program provides veterans and their beneficiaries the chance to safely, reliably, and inexpensively receive and manage their VA monetary benefits through financial services at participating banks.

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BBB RESOURCES

Find community resources and attend in-person BBB Military Line workshops by contacting your local BBB.

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