

CONSUMER ALERT

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection datcp.wisconsin.gov



Email Scam Uses Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Name

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MADISON – Wisconsin taxpayers are receiving scam emails regarding fake tax liabilities. The messages claim that the recipient owes a Wisconsin tax and will face additional penalties if they do not open the email's attachment. These emails falsely claim to be from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, and opening the attachment could damage your computer or enable an identity thief to obtain personal information from your system. Delete the email and do NOT open any attachments.

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue does not initiate taxpayer communications through email nor does it request detailed personal information by phone or email.

Here is an example of a message received by a Wisconsin taxpayer (note the numerous grammatical errors – a good sign of a potential scam):

Subject: Payment notice #103831

Good morning!

You has the fines for income tax.

Sum: \$162.85

===Detailed announcement is in the attachment===

You gotta check out spreadsheet before July 11th 2014.

Otherwise you'll obtain lawsuit.

Warm regards,

Chief of Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

(Made up Name)

(Made up Number)

Please do not reply to this email.

No virus found in this email. Checked by FortiClient. Mon, 5 May 2014 11:38:31 +0200

Again, if you receive a similar email, delete it and do not open the attachment.

For additional information or to file a complaint, visit the Consumer Protection Bureau at <http://datcp.wisconsin.gov>, send an e-mail to datcp hotline@wisconsin.gov or call the Consumer Information Hotline toll-free at 1-800-422-7128.

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