



# Auburn Police Department



Phillip L. Crowell  
Chief of Police

Jason D. Moen  
Deputy Chief

Rita P. Beaudry  
Exec. Assistant

## FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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### **PHONE SCAMMERS USING SPOOFED GOVERNMENT NUMBERS**

Auburn Police Department is conducting a fraud investigation where a local resident was defrauded out of several thousand dollars after falling victim to phone scammers. The victim received several phone calls from a male claiming to be an agent with the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Department. The male claimed to be investigating a taxes owed issue involving the victim. The male was quite rude and intimidating.

After hanging up on the male several times, the victim received two phones where the Caller I.D. information was spoofed to appear as though the calls originated from the Auburn Police Department's primary telephone number. She also received at least one phone call that was spoofed to appear as though that call came from the Androscoggin County District Attorney's Office main telephone line. Of course, these calls did not originate from this police department or the District Attorney's office; however, the victim found this scam was more believable due to these calls from local (spoofed) phone numbers. She did speak to a 'Lieutenant Green' (who, of course does not work for the APD) and this 'Lieutenant Green' threatened the victim with arrest by the Auburn Police Department if she hung up on the IRS. The victim was threatened repeatedly and was told to tell no one about this tax 'situation' or about the 'payments' she was making to the IRS.

Anytime you receive a phone call purported to be from the IRS, here's what to do:

- If you owe Federal taxes, or think you might owe taxes, hang up and call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with your payment questions.
- If you don't owe taxes, call and report the incident to Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

If you have fallen victim to this type of scam, the IRS does have a website set up where victims of this type of 'IRS Impersonation Scam' can make a report. The URL is: [http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact\\_report\\_scam.shtml](http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml)

For More Information Contact:  
Deputy Chief Jason Moen  
207-333-6650 ext 2052