



Department of  
Taxation

## IRS Warns Tax Professionals of New e-Services Email Scam

To maximize awareness, the Ohio Department of Taxation is sharing this message from the IRS warning of a new e-Services e-mail scam that targets tax professionals. Please visit <https://www.irs.gov/> for additional information.

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Partners,

Late last week (11-4-2016), the Internal Revenue Service warned tax professionals of a new phishing e-mail scheme in which cybercriminals mimic IRS e-services e-mails. The e-mail attempts to trick recipients into clicking on a bogus link which requests them to enter their username and password. The subject line for the suspect e-mail is “Security Awareness for Tax Professionals.” The “From” line is “Your e-Services Team” and it has both an IRS logo and an e-services logo that hyperlinks to a URL verified as a phishing site. After clicking the link, the recipient is directed to a spoofed e-services registration page to enter in their login information. After entering in the username and password, the tax professional has unknowingly given the fraudsters their unique e-services login information as well as other additional personal data.

Tax professionals are encouraged to be on the lookout for these scams and never enter their unique e-services login information without going through the IRS’ website. Tax professionals who receive a suspicious e-mail should send it as an attachment to <mailto:Phishing@irs.gov> and then delete it. Recipients should not click on any links.

The IRS urges all tax preparers to take the following steps:

- Always use robust security software
- Use encryption software to protect taxpayer data
- Use strong passwords and change them often
- Learn to recognize phishing emails attempting to steal data
- Never click on links or download attachments from suspicious emails
- Beware of any communications claiming to be the IRS that are outside normal channels

Tax Professionals should review [Protect Your Clients, Protect Yourself](#) on the IRS’ website for various steps you can take to protect your customers’ information and your business.