



Protect your clients; protect yourself

Every tax professional in the United States — whether a member of a major accounting firm or an owner of a one-person storefront — is a potential target for highly sophisticated, well-funded and technologically adept cybercriminals around the world.

Their objective: to steal your clients' data so they can file fraudulent tax returns that better impersonate their victims and are harder to detect. Their tactics: using email, the phone or other means to trick you into giving up computer passwords, e-Services passwords, to steal your EFINs or CAF numbers or even to take remote control of your entire computer system.

Protecting client data also is the law. Federal Trade Commission regulations require professional tax preparers to create and enact security plans to protect client data. Review IRS Publication 4557, Safeguarding Taxpayer Data, for details and security recommendations. Also, see IRS [Publication 5293, Data Theft Resource Guide for Tax Professionals](#) [PDF](#), for a roundup of IRS.gov information.

No one can fight this crime alone. It takes all of us, working together. That is why the [Security Summit](#) — the unprecedented partnership between the IRS, state tax agencies, and the private-sector tax industry — came together to form a united and coordinated front against this common enemy. And, that's why the Summit partners — through the "Protect Your Clients, Protect Yourself" awareness campaign — are asking tax professionals nationwide to join this effort.

Stay connected

To stay up to date on the latest threats and scams, bookmark and follow this page. You also should register for [e-News for tax professionals](#) or, if you are an e-Services user, register for [QuickAlerts](#) to stay atop latest news and threats. Follow us on social media at [Twitter.com/IRStaxpros](#) [↗](#), [Twitter.com/IRSNews](#) [↗](#) and [Facebook.com/IRStaxpros](#) [↗](#).

Security summit

We all have a role.

[Learn more](#)

Events and campaigns

- [Protect your clients; protect yourself, Summer 2026](#)
- [National Tax Security Awareness Week 2025](#)
- [Dirty Dozen tax scams](#)
- [Taxes. Security. Together.](#)

Prior year campaigns

- [Protect your clients; protect yourself, Summer 2025](#)
- [Protect your clients; protect yourself, Summer 2024](#)
- [Protect your clients; protect yourself, Summer 2023](#)
- [Protect your clients; protect yourself, Summer 2022](#)
- [National Tax Security Awareness Week 2023](#), Nov. 27-Dec. 1, 2023
- [National Tax Security Awareness Week 2022](#), Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2022
- [Working Virtually: Protecting Tax Data at Home and at Work](#), Summer 2020
- [Tax Security 2.0 – The “Taxes-Security-Together” Checklist](#), Summer 2019
- [IRS Security Awareness tax tips](#)

News releases and scam alerts

2026

- [IR-2026-81, IRS, Security Summit launch summer series to help tax pros protect clients from identity theft](#)
- [IR-2026-75, IRS and Security Summit partners announce new framework to better protect taxpayers and tax revenue from fraud](#)

2025

- [IR-2025-88, Security Summit: IRS reminds tax pros to guard against identity theft as summer series wraps up](#)
- [IR-2025-83, Security Summit: Protect against tax identity theft with multi-factor IDs, Identity Protection PINs, IRS Online Accounts](#)
- [IR-2025-79, IRS, Security Summit remind tax pros they must have a Written Information Security Plan to protect client data](#)

- [IR-2025-75, Tax pros should watch out for phishing emails and other attacks, Security Summit warns](#)
- [IR-2025-73, IRS, Security Summit launch summer series to help tax pros protect clients from identity theft as Nationwide Tax Forums begin](#)

2024

- [Protect your clients; protect yourself — Summer 2024](#)

2023

- [Protect your clients; protect yourself — Summer 2023](#)

2022

- [Protect your clients; protect yourself — Summer 2022](#)

2021

- [IR-2021-144, IRS wraps up its 2021 "Dirty Dozen" scams list with warning about promoted abusive arrangements](#)
- [IR-2021-137, IRS urges caution with email, social media and phones as part of "Dirty Dozen" series](#)
- [IR-2021-34, IRS, Summit partners issue urgent EFIN scam alert to tax professionals](#)
- [IR-2021-24, IRS offers guidance to taxpayers on identity theft involving unemployment benefits](#)

2020

- [IR-2020-71, IRS, Security Summit partners warn tax professionals on scams, urge additional security measures to protect taxpayer data](#)
- [IR-2020-65, Follow IRS on social media, sign up for e-News subscriptions for urgent updates on COVID-19, scams and economic impact payment information](#)

- [IR-2020-52, Get up-to-date information including the annual IRS "Dirty Dozen" with IRS e-News Subscriptions](#)
- [IR-2020-32, IRS urges tax professionals, taxpayers to protect tax software accounts with multi-factor authentication](#)
- [IR-2020-27, IRS launches Identity Theft Central](#)
- [IR-2020-17, IRS: Don't be victim to "ghost" tax return preparers](#)

2019

- [IR-2019-145, Security Summit warns of new IRS impersonation email scam; reminds taxpayers the IRS does not send unsolicited emails](#)
- [IR-2019-101, IRS takes additional steps to protect taxpayer data; plans to end faxing and third-party mailings of certain tax transcripts](#)
- [IR-2019-66, IRS, Security Summit partners mark significant progress against identity theft; key taxpayer protection trends continue](#)
- [IR-2019-58, IRS revises EIN application process; seeks to enhance security](#)
- [IR-2019-50, IRS announces arrests and indictments after two-week campaign to fight refund fraud and identity theft](#)
- [IR-2019-30, Identity theft remains on IRS' "Dirty Dozen" list despite progress](#)
- [IR-2019-26, IRS kicks off annual list of most prevalent tax scams: Agency warns taxpayers of pervasive phishing schemes in its 'Dirty Dozen' campaign](#)

Fact sheets

- [Security Summit partners urge tax pros to create plan for data safety](#)

Videos

- [IRS Tax Pro playlist, YouTube](#) 
- [IRS identity theft playlist, YouTube](#) 

Publications

- [Publication 5461-D, Tax professionals should review their security protocols](#)

PDF

- [Publication 5709, How to Create a Written Information Security Plan for Data Safety](#) [PDF](#)
- [Publication 4557, Safeguarding Taxpayer Data: A Guide for Your Business](#) [PDF](#)
- [Publication 5293, Data Theft Resource Guide for Tax Professionals](#) [PDF](#)
- [NIST Publication NISTIR 7621, Small Business Information Security – The Fundamentals](#) [PDF](#) [↗](#)
- [Publication 4524, Security Awareness for Taxpayers](#) [PDF](#)

Related

- [Data theft information for tax professionals](#) – What to do if you become a victim
- [Identity theft information for tax professionals](#) – How to protect yourself and your clients
- [Identity Theft Central](#)
- [Security Summit](#)

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