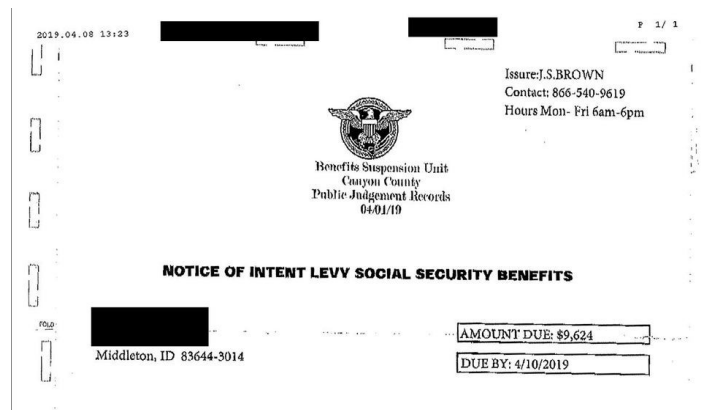


Idaho Attorney General warns of tax scams reported throughout state

idahonews.com/news/local/idaho-attorney-general-warns-of-tax-scams-reported-throughout-state



BOISE, Idaho (CBS2) — Attorney General Lawrence Wasden and the Idaho State Tax Commission are warning Idahoans of recent tax scams targeting people in the state.

The reported scams came to people in Middleton and Orofino through the mail.

“These mailings are particularly concerning because they show scammers are researching actual tax records and then tailoring their scam attempts specific to individuals,” Wasden says. “If there’s ever any reason to question the legitimacy of a tax document you receive in the mail, call tax officials – not on the numbers provided in the mailing – and check its authenticity. Be especially suspicious of anything that aggressively demands payment in a short amount of time.”

The mailing sent to the Middleton resident was from the “Benefits Suspension Unit” in Canyon County.

There is no existence of a “Benefits Suspension Unit” in Idaho.

The mailer was labeled as a “Notice of Intent (to) Levy Social Security Benefits” and threatened to take the recipient’s Social Security benefits, wages, bank accounts and federal tax refunds. The mailer demanded payment of more than \$9,600 by April 10. It stated a working phone number that was answered by a man identifying himself as a representative of “the American Tax Group” as recently as April 11.

The mailing sent to an Orofino resident appears to have originated in Paramount, California. It is purportedly from the “Bureau of Tax Enforcement Internal Processing Service” in Clearwater County.

Like the “Benefits Suspension Unit,” no such agency exists.

The mailing included an accurate dollar figure for an actual tax debt owed by the recipient. The mail threatens to seize the recipient’s property if payment arrangements aren’t made quickly.

Tax Mailings by KBOI 2News on Scribd