

Ravalli County Sheriff's Office
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Chris Hoffman, Sheriff

Stephen Holton, Undersheriff

**** Special Press Release 05-16-2016****

Ravalli County Sheriff Chris Hoffman wants the public to be aware of recent phone scam solicitations that have been prevalent over the past several weeks. The Sheriff's Office has received numerous reports of citizens who have been contacted via telephone, by someone claiming to be a representative of the IRS. The caller will identify themselves as an IRS employee and tell the victim that money is owed or tax penalties have been assessed, and threaten the victim with immediate arrest if they do not provide personal financial account information to the caller, or immediately transfer money to an account the caller provides. The caller typically threatens the victim by saying there is a warrant for their arrest or the Sheriff's Office will arrest them if they do not comply with the caller's demands.

Sheriff Hoffman said in all cases these solicitations are scams. He said the public should never provide any information to a solicitor over the phone and the best course of action is to terminate the phone call. If the intended victim has any concerns or questions about a suspicious phone call, they can contact the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office at 406-363-3033.