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NOTICE OF PHISHING SCAM

The Internal Revenue Service will not request personal information through e-mail. All correspondence will include a telephone number that the recipient can call for confirmation.

The most recent phishing scam includes an e-mail from the address *no-reply@irs.gov*. It is fairly identical to the one below:

From: Internal Revenue Service (no-reply@irs.gov)
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 7:56PM
To:
Subject: Notice of Underreported Income

Taxpayer ID: reports-00000174073547US
Tax Type: INCOME TAX
Issue: Unreported/Underreported Income (Fraud Application)

Please review your tax statement on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website (click on the link below):

review tax statement for taxpayer id: reports-00000174073547US

Internal Revenue Service

In the received e-mail, if you float over the link with your cursor you will see that the domain name is not a government website. Do not click on the link. Delete the e-mail immediately. You may report the e-mail by forwarding it to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov

Scammers use institutions of the federal government to grab your attention. A forged IRS notice has a greater chance of potential success since most adults in the United States deal with the agency. Many are confused by the tax filing process, which makes it easier for scammers.

We would like to remind the clients of Smith Financial Services that they have the distinct privilege of contacting our office regarding any correspondence that you may receive from the government. We will be able to distinguish whether the document is fraudulent or genuine, and explain the accompanying procedures.

As always, if you have any questions please contact our office at 301-473-5880.

Sincerely,

Smith Financial Services, P.A.