



# FRAUD ALERT

FROM THE OFFICE OF LEE COUNTY SHERIFF MIKE SCOTT

## IRS CALLS FLOODING LEE COUNTY – AGAIN

January 2016

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Fraud Line has received nearly 400 phone calls from residents within the last 36 hours reporting fraudulent calls from scammers pretending to be with the IRS.

As this scam rears its ugly head again to coincide with the beginning of tax season, the Sheriff's Office expects this round of calls to last for some time.

Residents and seasonal guests should remember the IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment or call about taxes owed without first contacting you by mail.
- Demand you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
- Require you to use a specific payment method, such as a prepaid debit card or wire transfer.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

If you have been the victim of a fraud or a scam, contact the Sheriff's Office fraud line at 258-3292.