



FROM THE OFFICE OF
SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR
SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

A Message From Prosecutor Walsh

New Twist to IRS Scam

My office continues to track the latest information on scams to make sure you are safe.

We've heard them all: the Grandparents Scam, the Jury Duty Scam, the New Business scam, and even Charity scams.

But now there is a new twist to an old scam—the IRS Scam. The original scam involved the victim receiving a call saying they owed back taxes and they immediately needed to give credit card information to pay or they would be arrested. Unfortunately, many people fell for this.

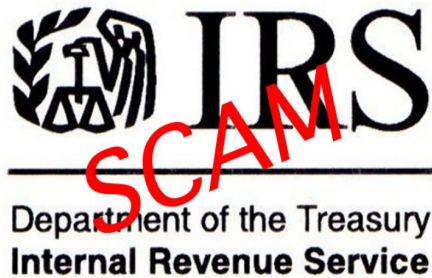
Recently, five people were arrested in Miami, Florida, charged with scamming people out of millions of dollars. Officials with the U.S. Government's Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) reported the IRS scam has bilked an estimated \$36.5 million dollars from 6,400 victims across the country.

But now, instead of asking for money as payment for the overdue tax debt, scammers are now asking for payment via iTunes gift cards.

According to the Ohio Attorney General's Office, 10 Ohioans fell victim to this scam, losing between

\$1,000 and \$11,000. And hundreds more have reported receiving these scam calls.

Here's how this new twist works. The victim is told to purchase iTunes gift cards, then read the numbers on the back of the cards over the phone. The scammers use this information to drain the card's funds, making it nearly impossible for the victim to recover the money.



After the information is relayed over the phone, the scammer then instructs the victim to mail the iTunes gift cards to a physical address.

Here is what you need to know. The real IRS will never call and demand that you pay off your tax debt with an iTunes gift card.

Also, if you receive an unexpected phone call from someone threatening to arrest you for not paying taxes, be very skeptical.

Normally, you will receive notice through the mail if you owe back taxes.

Don't trust someone who demands you make a payment with a gift card, prepaid card, or wire transfer. These are preferred payment methods for scammers.

Don't respond to illegal robocalls. Even calling the number back may result in even more calls, because con artists will then know the number belongs to a real person.

Don't trust your caller ID. Many times, scammers "spoof" phone numbers, making the number on your caller ID appear to be from the IRS, when it is not.

And look into ways to block unwanted calls. Your phone carrier may have call-blocking services to help stop unwanted calls.

IRS or U.S. Treasury impersonation scams can be reported to TIGTA at www.treasury.gov/tigta or call toll free 800.366.4484.

Stay safe,

Sherri B. Walsh



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In The Community

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office is committed to the community and keeping people informed and safe.



In May, we helped pay tribute to Law Enforcement Officers who died while protecting the community. The week of May 15 was **National Police Week**. Throughout the month, local agencies held ceremonies to remember the fallen. In 1962, President

John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week.



We were proud and honored to take part in events in Akron, Stow, and Cuyahoga Falls.

Prosecutor Walsh joined retired officer **Rob Winebrenner**, father of murdered Akron Police Officer Justin Winebrenner, in Cuyahoga Falls for that city's memorial service.



And in Stow, **Deputy Chief Counsel Margaret Scott** represented the office at the city's annual Jonathan Bastock Luminary Ceremony. She paid tribute to the men and women who risk their lives everyday.

Thank you to everyone who puts on a uniform and keeps our community safe. Your effort is appreciated and not forgotten.

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office also played a key role in helping keep people safe. In May, our **FREE Women's Self-Defense** class was at Lakeside Christian Church in Bath.



A very motivated crowd showed up to learn vital and potentially life-saving moves, like wrist breakaways, the finger twist,

how to escape from a chokehold, the groin slap & kick, and the trachea notch push off. And they had fun doing it!



Thanks to **University of Akron Lt. Chad Cunningham** for

leading the class, and to **Summit County Sheriff Steve Barry** and his staff for all their help.

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office also held its first ever **Township Training** event for Summit County's nine townships.



Those who attended learned about the Sunshine Law, Public Records Requests, Zoning Cases, and Discrimination Cases. Thank you to everyone who attended. **John Galonski, Chief of our**

Civil Division, led the session, with assistance from **Assistant Prosecutor Colleen Sims**. It was great bringing everyone together to talk about issues concerning local townships. We hope to do it again next year!

Avery's Corner

Keeping The Community Safe

May was such a fun month for me. The weather finally warmed up toward the end of the month (although that quick snow was interesting!).



And I got to meet a bunch of new friends. I spent time at Hudson High School's Service Learning Program.

The students were great and asked some very good questions. I got to show off a little and my human explained what I do.



They also sent me a huge pile of thank you notes! Thank you for inviting us to your school.

And I got to meet someone new. This is Trotwood. Trotwood is a lot like me. He helps people.



Trotwood works with **Summit County Domestic Relations Magistrate Ron Cable** and meets with children whose families are going through a divorce.

The humans were talking about all the good things we do at **WAKR Radio with Ray Horner**.

Trotwood is really nice and does great work. I'm glad Summit County has two dogs to help people.

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GUILTY VERDICTS

May 2016

Congratulations to the following assistant prosecutors for obtaining convictions at trial.

Jon Baumoel

Kevin Mayer (2)

Nik Buckmeier

Jennie Shuki

Tom Kroll

Jaime Syx

Great Job Prosecutors!!!!



Tough Prosecutions

These defendants will be locked up for a lengthy period of time thanks to our dedicated Assistant Prosecutors:

Eric Hendon, 33

- 5 Counts of Aggravated Murder
- Attempted Murder
- Aggravated Robbery
- Felonious Assault
- **LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE**

David Quarterman, 19

- Complicity to Commit Voluntary Manslaughter
- Aggravated Robbery
- **14 YEARS IN PRISON**

Marcus Turner, 39

- Murder
- Felonious Assault
- **LIFE IN PRISON— Parole Eligible after 18 Years**



Help Us Go Green!

Contact Melanie Hart at hart@prosecutor.summitoh.net to receive this newsletter by e-mail



2016 High Point Awards

The Summit County Prosecutor's Office has some of the best employees around. All do wonderful work. But we want to single out five workers who were recipients of the High Point Award for 2016. All are tremendous leaders in their field and are truly an asset to the office.

Josh Edwards is a Child Support Specialist in our Child Support Enforcement Agency. Josh is very professional and works diligently and enthusiastically on his projects. He works hard for Summit County families and is always willing to assist others.

Assistant Prosecutor **Jon Baumel** is a supervisor in our criminal division. He was honored for his ability to handle complex, high-profile cases with a cool demeanor and even temperament. No matter what you throw at him, Jon never loses his cool.

Joe McAleese, a law clerk, has been with our Child Support Enforcement Agency

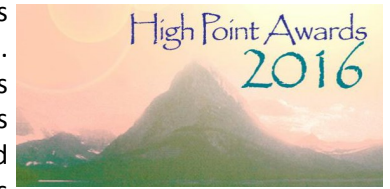


for only two years, but has made quite an impression. His time at CSEA has earned him a tremendous amount of respect and admiration from his

supervisors and colleagues not only for the work he's conducted at the Agency, but also for simultaneously graduating law school and working as the Sports Coordinator for the Green Family YMCA.

Joanne Timmerman is a Legal Secretary and has been with our office for nearly nine years. She is a valued member of our Juvenile Division and is always happy to help with any task. She is a genuinely appreciated part of our division's team, and we are lucky to have her on our side to accomplish our goals.

Kim Subotin has possibly one of the toughest jobs in our office. For the past eight and a half years, Kim has worked as a victim advocate in the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. She works tirelessly to ensure the rights of victims are protected. Thank you to everyone for all you do.



Battle Over Civil Forfeitures

Back in January of this year, this very newsletter focused on the battle over civil forfeitures. Ohio lawmakers are debating a new bill which would handcuff police and prosecutors when it comes to fighting drugs in our communities.

Five months later, the problem has reached a critical point. House Bill 347 made it out of the House Judiciary Committee and was just passed by the full Ohio House. Now the State Senate is debating its version of the bill—SB 236.

House Bill 347 greatly limits law enforcement's ability to protect communities by getting money and supplies out of the hands of drug dealers.

For example, a police officer pulls a driver over for a violation. As the



officer approaches the vehicle, they notice thousands of dollars wrapped in the vehicle's back seat. After receiving permission to search the vehicle, the officer realizes the money is packaged in the going rate for a pound of marijuana. The officer calls in a drug sniffing dog, who alerts investigators that the money has come in contact with drugs. But no drugs were found in the vehicle. The driver cannot be charged with a crime. The money itself, not the owner, is in violation of the law.

Under current Ohio law, the officer is allowed to seize the money. The prosecutor then must prove in court the money was illegally obtained. The decision is ultimately up to a judge.

House Bill 347, and its counterpart in the Senate, prevents law enforcement from seizing that money, putting it back in the drug dealer's hands so they can use it to terrorize our neighborhoods.

Now we need your help. There is an online petition to alert Ohio Lawmakers that our community is against this bill. Please sign the petition by going to the website <https://www.change.org/p/keep-civil-forfeiture>.

Let Ohio lawmakers know this is a bad bill and could greatly impact your safety.

June Top Cop

Barberton Police Lt. Brian Jamison

Nominated by Assistant Prosecutors Teri Burnside & Dan Sallerson

"The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand." –Vince Lombardi

Those words are why we nominated Lieutenant Brian Jamison of the Barberton Police Department as Top Cop. Lt. Jamison's work was key in obtaining the convictions of Michael and Eric Hendon for the 2013 New Year's Eve triple homicide of John Carpenter, his two teenaged children, Ashley and David, and the attempted murder of John's girlfriend, Ronda Blankenship.

The case was one of the worst our office has seen. One man killed. Two innocent children executed. A woman shot in the face and left for dead. And two brothers responsible for destroying a family and terrorizing a city. But after two and a half years, two Summit County juries found both men guilty. And both are currently serving Life Sentences with no eligibility for parole.

We would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation and commend Lt. Jamison for his outstanding dedication, patience, organizational skills, availability and exceptional investigation in these murder cases. He embodied the teamwork put forth by those involved, from the parole authority, Oriana monitoring, Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Barberton Fire Department responding EMS, Barberton Police Department, Medical Examiner's Office, 3M GPS expert Chris DeFant and many more.

Lt. Jamison demonstrated the utmost professionalism and intelligence in putting together

and preparing this case for two separate trials. He spent many hours and weekends tying up loose ends and tracking down what we needed to succeed.

Lt. Jamison not only conducted a thorough investigation but he was amazing during trial preparation and as a witness during trial. He always made himself available to go over strategy, evidence, witness location and preparation. We spent many weekends meeting with witnesses, and organizing evidence. Lieutenant Jamison repeatedly drove us around to re-enact the defendant's GPS route to and from the crime scene. Through all of this, he was humorous, kind, calming and insightful. For all of this and more, Lt. Brian Jamison was the drive to securing guilty verdicts against these murderers who will spend the rest of their lives in prison without possibility of parole.

There were so many people who lent a hand to this investigation, and we would like to personally thank each and every one of them. Your assistance, no matter how big or small, helped lock up two dangerous people for the rest of their lives.

Lt. Jamison's devoted and tireless contributions are the bedrock of our justice system and as they say in Polish, "Dziekuje Panu" (Thank you, Sir).

Good Work Lt. Jamison & Congratulations!



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