

Tax scam alert for Stark County

Scammers copy the look of IRS, Ohio and county tax letters. These are the signs to check, and the places to report a fake.

Red flags

- A demand for payment by gift card, prepaid debit card or wire transfer. The IRS says it does not ask for these.
- A call or text threatening arrest unless money is paid today. The IRS generally mails a bill first.
- A letter from a "Tax Processing Unit of Stark County." No such office exists; the Stark County Prosecutor warned about these letters in March 2023.
- A company that charges a large fee up front or promises to settle a debt for less before reviewing any finances. The Federal Trade Commission warns about both.
- Anyone asking for a Social Security number or bank details before the caller's identity has been checked.

What the real offices look like

Item	Details
Stark County property tax	Billed and collected by the Stark County Treasurer, 330-451-7814. Lien certificates are serviced by Tax Ease Ohio LLC / NAR Solutions, which the Treasurer names on its website.
City of Canton income tax	The 2.5% city tax is collected by the city's own Income Tax Department, 424 Market Ave N, 330-430-7900.
Ohio income tax	The Ohio Department of Taxation, then the Ohio Attorney General for certified balances (ORC 131.02): 888-301-8885.
IRS	Notices arrive by mail with a notice code. Appointments at an IRS office: (844) 545-5640.

Report it

- IRS impersonation: Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, 1-800-366-4484.
- Scams and bad business practices: the Federal Trade Commission, and an Ohio Attorney General consumer complaint.
- Check a tax professional before paying: the eLicense Ohio look-up for CPAs, and the IRS Directory of Federal Tax Return Preparers with Credentials.

Questions about a tax letter? The first call to **(330) 457-6198** is free, with no obligation. More plain-English guides: www.cantontaxresolution.top/resources/

Sources, checked October 12, 2026: IRS (www.irs.gov/newsroom/how-to-know-its-really-the-irs-calling-or-knocking-on-your-door); IRS (www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts); Cleveland 19 News (WOIO) (www.cleveland19.com/2023/03/27/stark-county-prosecutor-warns-residents-about-tax-scam/); Federal Trade Commission (consumer.ftc.gov/articles/tax-relief-companies); Stark County Treasurer (www.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/treasurer/contact_us.php); Stark County Treasurer (www.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/treasurer/departments/tax_liens.php); City of Canton (www.cantonohio.gov/1888/Canton-City-Income-Tax-Overview); Ohio Revised Code (LSC) (codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-131.02); Ohio Department of Taxation (tax.ohio.gov/individual/payments/pay-online-page); IRS (apps.irs.gov/app/office-locator/); Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (www.tigta.gov/reportcrime-misconduct); Ohio Attorney General (www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Consumers/File-a-Complaint); State of Ohio (eLicense Ohio) (elicense.ohio.gov/oh_verifylicense); IRS (irs.treasury.gov/rpo/rpo.jsf). General information, not tax or legal advice. Free to print and share. Latest version: www.cantontaxresolution.top/resources/tax-scam-alert/