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## *Treasury: Be Aware of New Collections Scam*

### ***Scammers Attempting to Collect Past-Due Tax Debts with Fake Letters***

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan taxpayers with past-due tax debts should be aware of a new scam making the rounds through the U.S. Postal Service, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

In the scheme, taxpayers are sent what appears to be a government-looking letter about an overdue tax bill, asking the taxpayer to immediately contact a toll-free number to resolve a tax debt or face asset seizure. The piece of correspondence appears credible to the taxpayer because it uses specific personal facts about the outstanding tax debt pulled directly from publicly available information.

The scammer's letter attempts to lure the taxpayer into a situation where they could make a payment to a criminal.

"All taxpayers need to be aware of this scam," said Deputy State Treasurer Ann Good, who oversees Treasury's Financial and Administrative Services programs. "If you have questions about an outstanding state debt, please don't hesitate to contact us. The state Treasury Department's correspondence involves official letters sent through the U.S. Postal Service, including several options to resolve your debt and information outlining your taxpayer rights."

Taxpayers who receive a letter from a scammer or have questions about their state debts should call Treasury's Collections Service Center at 1-866-218-7224. A customer service representative can log the scam, verify outstanding state debts and provide flexible payment options.