

MEMORIAL VILLAGES POLICE

CRIME ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Week ending March 20, 2014

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713-365-3700

CRIME ANALYSIS SUMMARY

March 14th through March 20th 2014

BUNKER HILL

On March 14th an Identity Theft report was taken from a victim in the 11900 block of Church Hill Ct. Victim received notice from GE Capital Bank that their information was used to open an account. The account was later closed. Victim then received a check from H& R Block for a refund from the IRS. Victim had not yet filed a tax return.

On March 17th an officer responded to a residence on Plantation in reference to an identity theft. The victim's information was used to file a tax return with the IRS. The victim received a letter from the IRS stating that the return had been flagged. The victim had already been in contact with the IRS and was working with them to resolve the issue.

On March 18th an Identity theft was reported. The victim, who lives in the 11700 block of Flintwood, received a letter from the IRS stating their return had been flagged. Victim had not yet filed his return.

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PINEY POINT

On March 17th an officer took a report from a victim who lives in the 1-99 block of Claymore Ct. The victim received a letter from the IRS indicating they had received a return from him. Victim contacted IRS because they had not filed a return.

HUNTERS CREEK

On March 18th a report was taken of a lost or stolen passport. The reporting person resides in the 200 block of Voss Rd. The report was for informational purposes only.

The following tips are being reiterated this week since these are current concerns:

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

With the recent rise in identity thefts related to tax returns, I wanted to share information that I received from the IRS about how they would contact you and what you should do if the need arises.

Uncovering Tax-Related Identity Theft

The IRS uses your Social Security Number (SSN) to make sure your filing is accurate and complete, and that you get any refund you are due. Identity theft can affect how your tax return is processed. An unexpected notice or letter from the IRS could alert you that someone else is using your SSN, however, the IRS doesn't start contact with a taxpayer by sending an email, text or social media message that asks for personal or financial information. If you get an email that claims to be from the IRS, do not reply or click on any links. Instead, forward it to phishing@irs.gov.

If someone uses your SSN to file for a tax refund before you do, the IRS might think you already filed and got your refund. When you file your return later, IRS records will show the first filing and refund, and you'll get a notice or letter from the IRS saying more than one return was filed for you.

If someone uses your SSN to get a job, the employer may report that person's income to the IRS using your SSN. When you file your tax return, you won't include those earnings. IRS records will show you failed to report all your income. The agency will send you a notice or letter saying you got wages but didn't report them. The IRS doesn't know those wages were reported by an employer you don't know.

Dealing With Tax-Related Identity Theft

If you think someone used your SSN for a tax refund or a job - or the IRS sends you a notice or letter indicating a problem - contact the IRS immediately. Specialists will work with you to get your tax return filed, get you any refund you are due, and protect your IRS account from identity thieves in the future.

1. Contact the Internal Revenue Service.

[IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit](https://www.irs.gov/identity-protection-specialized-unit)
[1-800-908-4490](https://www.irs.gov/identity-protection-specialized-unit)

1. Report the fraud.
2. Send a copy of your police report or an IRS ID Theft Affidavit Form 14039 and proof of your identity, such as a copy of your Social Security card, driver's license or passport.

2. Update your files.

1. Record the dates you made calls or sent letters.
2. Keep copies of letters in your files.

Other Steps to Repair Identity Theft

After you contact the IRS, it's important to limit the potential damage from identity theft:

- Put a [fraud alert](#) on your credit reports.
- [Order your credit reports](#).
- Create an [Identity Theft Report](#) by filing an identity theft complaint with the FTC and filing a police report

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Detective
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Contact Information

City of Bunker Hill Village: 713-467-9762

www.bunkerhill.net