

State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

2135 RIMROCK ROAD • P.O. BOX 8933 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-8933 • 608-266-6466 • FAX (608) 266-5718 http://www.revenue.wi.gov

Scott Walker Governor **Richard G. Chandler** Secretary of Revenue

For Immediate Release

January 15, 2013 CONTACT: Laurel Patrick, (608) 266-2300

DOR Recognizing Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week With Identity Verification

It's one of the top cybercrimes and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue is working to protect you from it. Tax identity theft occurs when someone files a false tax return using your personal information. To raise awareness of this important issue, January 13 – 17 is Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week.

One of our top priorities is protecting taxpayers, which is why we recently announced our new <u>Identity</u> <u>Verification</u> program. This tool is specifically designed to guard against fraudsters who want to steal your identity and your tax refund.

With Identity Verification, we are sending fraudsters a message - take your scheme somewhere else.

This tax season, some tax return filers will receive a letter asking them to take an Identity Verification quiz or provide documentation in order to verify their identity. By using this tool, we ensure that your information is not used by someone else to claim a tax refund. You can learn more on our <u>website</u>.

Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week is organized by the Federal Trade Commission. Visit their <u>website</u> or the <u>Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection</u> for helpful tips and information about how you can protect yourself.

You can also report tax fraud through the Department of Revenue. Visit our website.

- END -