



## Minnesota Crime Prevention Association's Crime Prevention Tips

The MCPA strives to bring current information regarding prevention topics to its members. Please use these prevention tips to promote safety to the citizens of your community. These tips are great for brochures, newsletters, e-mails, etc.

### Topic: **Tax Season Do's and Don'ts**

When using the United States Mail to send in your returns, always drop them in a secured mail box/drop or at the Post Office.

You have personal information on these forms that someone could use to claim your identity such as:

- ✍ Social Security Numbers
- ✍ Routing numbers for your bank accounts
- ✍ Income information that someone could use to open credit accounts without your knowledge (ID theft)
- ✍ Home Address

When using the Internet:

- ✍ Use all precautions you normally use for opening charge accounts with online businesses
- ✍ Turn off our computers when not in use
- ✍ When surfing the internet, hackers can get into your computer and gather personal information
- ✍ Check on fire walls and home computer security measures for your personal computer
- ✍ There is software that encrypts or scrambles the purchase information you send over the internet