

# WARNING: Tax Scam Alert

## A Message from the Town of Islip Receiver of Taxes

Recently, Tax Receiver offices from around Suffolk County have seen a rise in mail fraud. Criminals have been stealing property tax envelopes out of the mail from taxpayers who are mailing in payment for their property taxes. They are opening the envelope, removing the tax payers check and through a process called "check washing" erasing the ink on the check. Once the "pay to the order" name has been removed, these criminals are writing in a different name, going to a check cashing store and cashing the taxpayers check.

As a result, the Tax Receivers office does not receive payment, the taxpayer sees the money deducted from their account on a check they believed was cashed by the Tax Receivers office and they are not realizing the scam until weeks or months later when they are notified that no payment has been made on their property taxes.

Islip Town's newly elected Receiver of Taxes, Andy Wittman, has been bringing awareness of this scam to as many taxpayers as he can. He is advising and educating ALL taxpayers about his offices online payment portal, [www.tax.islipny.gov](http://www.tax.islipny.gov). Once a user has created an account, he/she attaches their property(s) to their profile, at which time, they can view the current years tax bill and the previous 9 years as well and make payment on the current tax bill.

This online platform is not only an easy and convenient, way for the taxpayers to view and/or pay their property taxes, but it provides the taxpayer the unique ability to compare, year over year, where their property taxes are going, what line item is increasing/decreasing and verifying all of their information is accurate. Mr. Wittman is also reminding taxpayers that his office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:30pm for in-person payments as well. His office is located at 40 Nassau Avenue Islip, NY 11751, just behind town hall. His office number is 631.224.5580 for any help, guidance and assistance to the public on the use of the online platform or any other questions the taxpayer may have.

Andy Wittman  
Receiver of Taxes – Town of Islip  
40 Nassau Avenue  
Islip, NY 11751  
631.224.5580 – office  
631.224.5543 – fax  
[Awittman@islipny.gov](mailto:Awittman@islipny.gov)