

## **TAX-TIME WARNING ON DOORKNOCK SCAM**

The Assistant Treasurer, Senator Nick Sherry, is warning Australians of a suspected door-to-door scam by people claiming to be consultants from the Tax Office.

The bogus consultants ask people to sign up to a supposed Government program promising financial incentives, including a reduction in taxes.

"The offer is a fraud - the Tax Office does not participate in these types of unsolicited activities," said the Assistant Treasurer.

"These people are breaking the law, so I am warning people to stay on guard and don't get duped."

"When making home visits for any Tax Office or Government initiative, tax officers will always make prior appointments and will show official Tax Office identification on arrival."

"Under no circumstances should anyone give personal information including credit card, banking or super fund details to these people."

"Anyone who has given personal information to an illegitimate source should immediately report it to their credit card provider, bank or super fund."

The Assistant Treasurer said the Tax Office is working closely with a number of other Government agencies to detect these scams to help protect the integrity of the tax system.

"Unfortunately, at tax time, there is often an increase in people trying to take advantage of honest taxpayers through all kinds of scams," said the Assistant Treasurer.

Anyone concerned about the legitimacy of the call or identity of a tax officer, should call the Tax Office on 13 28 61 and report any suspicious activities.

Anyone approached about accessing or investing in super should contact the Tax Office.

CANBERRA  
9 August 2009