



Funding the Republic

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG PANANALAPI
KAWANIHAN NG INGATANG-YAMAN
(BUREAU OF THE TREASURY)
Intramuros, Manila

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

There were reports regarding scams using voice solicitation to get information or money from various offices of the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr). The scam involves the use of social engineering techniques to trick the victim into doing something, often asking for names, birthdays, and other personal details of persons for the purpose of committing fraud, also known as “**vishing**” (combination of "voice" and "phishing" terms). Personal information of individuals are not the only targets of vishing. Scammers can also ask for information on personal finances such as credit card information, and passwords. Vishing can also be used to build relationships with key employees and take advantage of the human tendency to be open and helpful in order to steal data, access confidential networks, and run other scams.

It is advised that the employees of the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) to follow these suggested actions prevent vishing attacks, to wit:

- Think before you speak. Scammers want you to act and give out information;
- Be aware that caller IDs can be easily spoofed by scammers;
- Verify phone numbers before calling back;
- Use a different phone to call back;
- Never divulge or share any sensitive information over the phone;
- Block automated calls; and
- Secure passwords. Avoid using public information such as birthdays, etc.

As a general policy, BTr officers and employees should course their request through official channels. Further, all official transactions of the Central Office to the various Regional and Provincial Offices shall be communicated through official channels such as the BTr email address with the official domain name, "@treasury.gov.ph" or through the official and verified BTr Facebook page and/or Twitter account.

BTr Personnel who receive suspicious calls and messages are encouraged to verify first and report any incident to BTr via the Legal Service at email legalod@treasury.gov.ph or through contact number (02) 524-7037.

We reiterate our previous warning to the perpetrators of these scams that malicious actions such as vishing constitute a violation of applicable laws, and that BTr will not hesitate to file the appropriate charges and take necessary legal action.