

**LEGAL AID'S TAX TEAM WANTS YOU  
TO STAY PROTECTED THIS TAX  
SEASON!**

Remember the 4 Ps for spotting red flags with tax preparers and know when to walk away...

**PTIN REQUIRED!** If you use a paid preparer who refuses to provide their Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN), WALK AWAY!

**PERCENTAGE FEES.** If your paid preparer says they'll take a percentage or increase the fees as they do your return instead of charging a flat fee, that is UNETHICAL.

**PRINTED OR PDF.** You should always get a print or digital (PDF) copy of your return before filing it and KEEP IT at least seven years.

**PROMISES.** If your preparer promises to give you "the biggest refund you have ever had," be wary. They may claim fraudulent credits that get YOU in trouble.



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## **RELIABLE TAX PREPARATION IN CENTRAL OHIO**

There are good options out there!  
Contact a free preparer or carefully look  
into your paid preparers.

**TAX TIME** A trained volunteer will do  
your taxes for free if you are eligible.  
Call 211 or visit  
<https://614filefree.org> for more  
information.

**VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX  
ASSISTANCE (VITA)** Find your nearest  
VITA site using this IRS website:  
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**VIRTUAL OPTIONS** VITA volunteers are  
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**I DON'T QUALIFY. I NEED A PAID  
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*This information is based on current law, which is  
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