

HELP!! FRAUD!! YOUR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION WAS STOLEN

Credit Cards

- Contact the credit agency (or agencies).
- Close all credit card accounts immediately.
- Ask for password access for any inquiries or changes to your account.
 - And don't make it an easy password, e.g., your child's name, your phone number, the last 4 digits of your social security number.

Bank Accounts

- Close all accounts immediately.
- Request a new ATM card with a different pin code.
- Ask for password only access to your accounts.

Driver's License

- Contact your local Department of Motor Vehicles.
- If your state has your social security number printed on the license, ask for a substitution to another number.

Employment

- Check with your local Social Security office for a printout of your employment history.
- If you discover an employer on your record for whom you've never worked, contact that employer and inform the Social Security administration of your inaccurate employment history.
- In order to obtain a Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate, call: (800) 772-1213.

Apartment

- If someone has obtained an apartment rental using your identity, contact the apartment manager; he or she may provide a good deal of information on the tenants.

Utilities

- If someone has received telephone, gas, electric, or other services with your identifying information, notify the utility company. You may be able to obtain names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the suspects.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Your case has a much better chance of prosecution by a federal agency if you know who stole your identity. The agencies and individuals above could help you locate that individual.
- Notes are good. Take good notes of who you talked to at what company, the date, the time, and what was discussed.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

• Federal Trade Commission

- To check out further information on this fraud, go to www.ftc.gov.
- To report an identity theft, call the FTC at (202) 382-4357. The fraud against you will be included in this agency's statistical database.

• Office of the U.S. Trustee

- If you suspect any bankruptcy fraud, write a brief cover letter detailing the situation and attach copies of any documents that might be important to your case. Send this package to:

Fraud Section
Office of the U.S. Trustee
725 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2600
Los Angeles, CA 90017

• Social Security Administration

- Under extreme situations, the Social Security Administration may issue you a new social security number. Contact your local branch.

• U.S. Postal Service

- If your mail is stolen or the mails are used to perpetrate a fraud, contact your local postal inspector.