

THE FTC'S IDENTITY THEFT DATA CLEARINGHOUSE



- **Use it in your investigations**
- **A FREE tool from the Federal Trade Commission**
- **Search millions of identity theft complaints**
- **Connect with thousands of law enforcers**

The ID Theft Clearinghouse is an invaluable tool for investigating identity theft. Through the Clearinghouse, a national database of millions of consumer complaints about identity theft, you can find victims of identity theft and their experience, and information about identity thieves. Use the Clearinghouse to link reports of identity theft that otherwise look like isolated events, identify other agencies involved in an investigation, and spot significant criminal activity in your jurisdiction.

You can search the Clearinghouse by:

- the victim or subject's name, address, or phone number
- the local police department that took the report, and the report number
- type of offense, like "credit card fraud" or "loans"
- the companies involved
- your jurisdiction's location

FTC staff can help with your searches; simply email idtsearch@ftc.gov. The FTC also develops investigatory leads and refers them to law enforcement.

Police Reports: Critical for ID Theft Victims

Federal law created a tool called an Identity Theft Report, which is a valid, detailed police report. Identity theft victims may need to present an Identity Theft Report for a timely and complete recovery. Federal law requires consumer reporting companies and financial institutions to take action to aid consumers that have an Identity Theft Report. Consumers can visit ftc.gov/idtheft to complete and print out the standard ID Theft Complaint Form and then bring the completed form to law enforcement to create an Identity Theft Report.

ID theft victims can file a complaint with the FTC, or get free information about how to reduce the risk of identity theft and respond if it happens, at ftc.gov/idtheft or by calling 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338).

FTC Offers Free Education Materials

Use the FTC's free ID Theft Consumer Education Kit to help get the message to consumers about deterring, detecting, and defending against identity theft. It includes a booklet on how to talk about ID theft and tools to make presentations easier, a 10 minute video (in English and Spanish), a comprehensive guide to victim assistance, and a short brochure. You can order the kit at ftc.gov/bulkorder.

To sign up for FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, contact the Consumer Sentinel project team at sentinel@ftc.gov or 1-877-701-9595.