

What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft is when a subject takes any identifier of another person and uses it for fraudulent purposes. These identifiers include: Birth dates, Social Security Numbers, Credit Card Numbers and other pieces of information that identifies a particular person. Identity theft is the largest form of fraud in the country.

How can you protect yourself from becoming a victim?



Shred all documents that have your identification before throwing them away. This includes all pre-approved credit card applications, bank statements and bills.



Check your credit report at least annually for any suspicious activity.



Report any lost or stolen credit or debit cards.



Don't carry your Social Security Card with you. Keep in a safe and secure location.



Only use locked or secured drop boxes for outgoing mail.



Only use secured sites when purchasing items on the internet.



Don't give out personal information in response to an unsolicited request.



Monitor Bank & Credit card statements for unauthorized activity. Review account statements regularly to ensure all charges are correct.



