



If you have been a victim of Identity Theft or have had your wallet/purse stolen with important information (such as Social Security Cards, Driver's License, Credit/Debit Cards, etc.) then please follow the below procedures:

- Contact your local police department and file a report
- Make sure to get a copy of your police report and/or the case number
- Contact the Department of Public Safety/Department of Motor Vehicles in the state where your license was issued. <http://bmv.ohio.gov/>
- Notify all creditors of your stolen credit cards.
- Notify your banks/credit unions.
- Contact the Social Security Administration at <http://www.ssa.gov/>
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission to inquire if someone has applied for credit in your name. <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>

#### Tips to protect your Identity

- Shred all statements, receipts, etc., that has identifiers and account information.
- Never give information over the telephone or internet unless you initiated the conversation or you know who you're dealing with.
- Remove extra information from your checks. Make the clerk or cashier ask for identification when your checks are used.
- Check credit history and bank records frequently.
- Minimize the number of credit/debit cards that you carry in your wallet or purse in the event that it is stolen.
- Keep a list of your credit card numbers and contact numbers for the credit card companies stored in a safe spot.
- Hang up on anyone who says they are from the IRS, even if they give you their "badge number." The real IRS will contact you by regular mail.
- Never place bills in your mailbox in front of your house, it is easy to steal your entire identity this way.
- Don't give out credit card number

#### Credit Bureau Information

If your identity has been stolen, contact the following credit reporting agencies and request a "fraud alert" be placed on each credit report. Also, request a copy of your free credit report to compare against your own records regarding what accounts may have been opened fraudulently.

**Equifax:** [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

**Experian:** [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

**Trans Union:** [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)