ID Theft Protection

- Opt out of receiving pre-screened credit card offers by calling 1-800-567-8688
- Order a copy of your credit report frequently. www.annualcreditreport.com
- Remove your name from mailing, telephone and e-mail solicitation lists.
  - Mail - DMA Choice, Direct Marketing Association, PO Box 673, Carmel, NY 10512 or https://www.dmachoice.org/index.php
  - National Do-Not-Call Registry - https://www.donotcall.gov/
    - Phone 1-888-382-1222
  - Pre-approved Credit Cards – Phone 1-888-225-5322, (you will need your social security number complete this process)
- Place a continuous credit “fraud alert” on your credit report
- Get a locking mail box for incoming mail and use a USPS drop box for outgoing mail.
- Always shred papers with personal or financial information.
- Place a hold on your mail when going on vacation.
- Have checks mailed to your financial institution.
- Keep a list of account numbers & telephone numbers to call in case of loss or theft.
- Place the content of your wallet on a photocopy machine and copy both sides of all licenses, credit cards, etc. & keep in a safe/secure place.
- Have boxes of checks mailed to a PO Box or your financial institution rather than home.
- Don’t print your Social Security number on checks.

Reporting – If You’re the Victim

- Close all affected accounts immediately. Request they indicate “closed at consumer request.”
- Call police and file a report. Obtain a copy of the report for your records and to supply to creditors as necessary.
- Report credit card theft immediately.
- Contact all credit/banks/credit reporting agencies as appropriate.
  - Equifax: 800-525-6285 or www.equifax.com
  - Experian: 800-397-3742 or www.experian.com
  - TransUnion: 800-680-7289 or www.transunion.com
- Complete an ID Theft Affidavit
- Place a fraud alert on your credit report that requires creditors to contact you before opening any new accounts.
- Stop payment on outstanding checks.
- Request new ATM/credit cards.
- Change all passwords and PINS.
- Contact the Postal Inspection Service if you believe your mail was tampered with.
- Keep a detailed history of the crime and log all your contacts as well as a copy of all documents.
- Contact the Department of Motor Vehicles to see if another license was issued in your name.

Other Resources

Social Security Administration
Fraud Line 800-269-0271 or www.ssa.gov

Department of Justice
www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraude/idtheft.html

Identity Theft Resource Center
888-400-5530 or http://www.idtheftcenter.org/