Identity Theft Resources

Identity theft is the unauthorized use of your personal and financial information.

In many cases this use by scam artists, hackers and other criminals can ruin your good name and credit record. Identity theft can drain your financial resources.

**Here are some ways you can protect yourself from identity theft:**

* Do not carry your Social Security/Medicare Card with you.
* Do not give your Social Security number to a business or individual unless it is absolutely necessary.
* Protect your financial and personal information in a secure location, such as a safe.
* Use firewall and anti-spam software to secure your computer, and periodically change the passwords for your accounts.
* Never give personal information to anyone over the phone unless you began the contact.

**If you are the victim of identity theft, here are some ways to repair your victimization:**

1. File a report with the Federal Trade Commission at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or call 1 877 438-4338.
2. File a report with local law enforcement.
3. File a report with the Idaho Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection Division by calling 208 334-2424, outside the Boise area, call 1 800 432-3545.

1. Contact the IRS to file form 14039 Identity Theft Affidavit.
2. Contact the fraud departments for the three major credit bureaus: Equifax- 1 800 685-1111, TransUnion-1 800 916-8800, Experian-1 888 397-3742.
3. Close all accounts that have been impacted.
* AARP Network Hotline 1-877-908-3360
* Put your name on the Do Not Call list:
* Do Not Call Registry: [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) 1-888-382-1222
* Free Credit Report: www.annualcreditreport .com 1-877-322-8228
* Idaho Attorney General: [www.ag.idaho.gov/](http://www.ag.idaho.gov/) 1-208-334-2400
* Federal Trade Commission: [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) 1-877-438-4338
* Better Business Bureau <https://www.bbb.org/> 208-342-4649
* US Post Office: postalinspectors.uspis.gov 1-877-876-2455
* FINRA: [www.finra.org](http://www.finra.org) securities helpline for seniors: **844-574-3577**
* Check Out Financial Advisors for military and their families: SaveandInvest.org
* SHIBA: [www.doi.idaho.gov/shiba/](http://www.doi.idaho.gov/shiba/) 1-800-247-4422
* Idaho Commission on Aging: aging.Idaho.gov/ 208-334-3833 (Boise) Toll free: 1-877-471-2777
* Medicare – Questions or Reporting Fraud
	+ Medicare.gov 1-800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)
* Credit Freeze information: www.ftc.gov
* Three Credit Reporting Companies:
	+ Equifax: 1-800-685-1111; [equifax.com](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.equifax.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbwynn%40aarp.org%7C9485087bb46449b03d6608d822bfb0c8%7Ca395e38b4b754e4493499a37de460a33%7C0%7C1%7C637297553989833071&sdata=16OPyOoBQoXnwePYx5GwbDF0BI5ZEAumm2c2jQUM7zU%3D&reserved=0)
	+ Experian: 1-888-397-3742; [experian.com](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.experian.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbwynn%40aarp.org%7C9485087bb46449b03d6608d822bfb0c8%7Ca395e38b4b754e4493499a37de460a33%7C0%7C1%7C637297553989843064&sdata=NjMJHvMCn1UVWpB0A9STC7IgHiyEfnCSS2LY6aR089I%3D&reserved=0)
	+ TransUnion: 1-800-916-8800; [transunion.com](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.transunion.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cbwynn%40aarp.org%7C9485087bb46449b03d6608d822bfb0c8%7Ca395e38b4b754e4493499a37de460a33%7C0%7C1%7C637297553989843064&sdata=uPpErX%2BMWAckVwXiAylyr6j6nliMD7pjIg85EErrml0%3D&reserved=0)
* IRS: IRS.gov 1-800-829-1040
* Eldercare Locator: <https://eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx>
	+ Eldercare National Line-Scam involving mail 1-800-677-1116