

## What to do if you fall victim:

- File a police report.
- Contact your financial institution immediately and alert it to the situation.
- Contact all creditors involved.
- Close any accounts that have been tampered with or established fraudulently.
- Keep a record of your contacts: to include credit reports, case numbers, any correspondence, and copies of disputed bills.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC provides useful information to identify theft victim and maintains a database of identity theft cases for use by law enforcement agencies. To file a report call their identity theft hotline:

1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).



## Additional Resources

### Privacy Rights Clearinghouse

Phone 619-298-3396

Email: [prc@privacyrights.org](mailto:prc@privacyrights.org)

[www.privacyrights.org](http://www.privacyrights.org)

### Virginia Attorney General's Office

Phone 804-786-2071

[www.oag.state.va.us/FAQs/FAQ\\_IDTheft.html](http://www.oag.state.va.us/FAQs/FAQ_IDTheft.html)

### EQUIFAX

Order Credit Report 866-349-5191

Report Fraud: 866-349-5191

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

### EXPERIAN

Order Credit Report: 888-397-3742

Report Fraud: 888-397-3742

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

### TRANS UNION

Order Credit Report: 877-322-8228

Report Fraud: 800-680-7289

[www.tuc.com](http://www.tuc.com)

PRINCE WILLIAM POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

## Identity Theft

### Crime Prevention Unit

[crimeprevention@pwcgov.org](mailto:crimeprevention@pwcgov.org)

703-792-7270



[www.pwcgov.org/police](http://www.pwcgov.org/police)

# What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in America, affecting more than a half million people each year.

Identity theft occurs when someone, whether it be a stranger, friend or family member, uses your name or personal information such as your

social security number, driver's license number, credit card number or other account numbers without your permission.

Identity thieves use this

information to obtain credit, steal money from existing accounts, apply for loans, establish new accounts with the victim's name, rent apartments and avoid criminal prosecution.

## Minimize Your Risk

Though you cannot totally prevent someone from stealing your personal information, you can manage this information in a wise and cautious manner to help guard yourself against becoming a victim.

- Shred financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them.
- Protect your social security number. Don't carry it in your wallet or write your Social Security number on your checks.



- Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you know who you are dealing with.
- Never click on links or unsolicited emails, always use web addresses that you know.
- Don't use obvious passwords like your birth date, your mother's maiden name, or the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- Keep your personal information in a secure place at home and in your office.

**TO FILE A POLICE REPORT  
REGARDING IDENTITY THEFT IN  
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, CALL:**

**703-792-6500**