

## If you become a Victim

- Contact the three (3) major credit reporting bureaus to request a Fraud Alert be placed on your report (*contact information is located in the "Resource" section of this brochure*).

- Contact the fraud unit of the company that sent the bill or whoever appears on your credit report. Request documentation related to this account (*i.e., a copy of a contract, service location, signatures, etc.*).

- Keep all documentation (*i.e., collection notices, credit reports, etc.*), since the investigating agency may need it for evidence.

- Contact the police agency in the city where the crime occurred; that is, where the service or account was initially set up (*Police agencies can only investigate crimes that happen in their jurisdiction*). If the crime happened in another state, be prepared to fax or mail your evidence to that department.

- If you feel your current valid accounts have been compromised, contact that financial institution and either cancel the account or add "password protection" to the existing valid accounts.

- You should also contact your State Attorney General's Office to make a report. You should have documentation showing where "someone else" pretended to be you, by using your personal information (*such as your credit report, billing for a fraudulent account, copy of fraudulent contract, etc.*). Please note that a report may be taken, but no investigation will be conducted until the required documents are provided.

- Contact the FTC and file a complaint.

***Don't let ANYONE ruin your good name!!***

## Resources

### Credit Bureaus:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285 [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

Experian: 1-888-397-3742 [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289 [www.tuc.com](http://www.tuc.com)

### State of Ohio

1-888-MY-ID-4-ME

[www.ag.state.oh.us/site\\_map/IDTheft/victim\\_assistance\\_kit72.pdf](http://www.ag.state.oh.us/site_map/IDTheft/victim_assistance_kit72.pdf)

### Federal Agencies:

Federal Trade Commission (FTC) 1-877-IDTHEFT  
[www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft)

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1-800-829-0433 (Tax Fraud Hotline)

Social Security Administration (1-800-269-0271) Fraud Hotline) [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

Internet Crime Complaint Center [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov)

Postal Inspection Service 1-877-987-3728 (Stolen Mail)  
[www.usps.com/postalinspectors](http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors)

### Help Prevent and Detect Terrorism

If you observe or suspect terrorist activity, contact the Terrorism Early Warning Group or the local Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) immediately. If there is an emergency situation call 9-1-1 or contact your local police department.

**TEWG HOTLINE:**  
**(513) 263-8000**

**FBI Cincinnati, JTTF**  
**(513) 421-4310**

# Regional Terrorism Early Warning Group (TEWG)

## Terrorist Awareness Potential Identity Theft from Terrorists



**Ohio – Kentucky - Indiana**

**TEWG HOTLINE:**  
**(513) 263-8000**

[www.hamilton-co.org/homeland](http://www.hamilton-co.org/homeland)

# Protect Your Identity from Terrorists

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has identified Identity theft as the fastest growing white-collar crime in the United States. Today, when your purse or wallet is stolen, the cash inside may not be the only thing that thieves want to steal. The most valuable items in your wallet may be your Social Security Card, Driver's License, or any other documents containing your personal information. ID theft is a facilitator of crimes that threaten national security, the economy, and personal privacy and security. During the course of a busy day, you share much of this personal information in person, on the telephone, or on the Internet. If your personal information falls into the hands of a terrorist, it may be used to steal your identity, using your information to open accounts or services as a means to finance terrorist activities, and even commit other crimes in your name without your knowledge. Although it is impossible to guarantee that identity theft will not happen to you, this brochure provides valuable information about how to reduce your chances of becoming a victim.

## What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft occurs when your identifying information has been used with the intent to commit an unlawful offense. For example, when someone uses your name, date of birth, address and/or social security number to establish service accounts (*i.e., cable, phone, water, etc.*) or lines of credit (*i.e., credit cards, vehicle purchases, etc.*). Unfortunately, many people do not know that they have been a victim of identity theft until it is too late. The normal indications are:

- Receipt of mysterious bills for accounts that you are unaware of;
- Phone calls from creditors or financial institutions inquiring about delinquent payments and
- Mail sent to your home from unknown lenders requesting more information about an application for credit "you applied for."

***Terrorists use ID theft and ID fraud as a means to finance their activities, enter the U.S. and gain access to facilities!!!***

## Methods Used to Steal your Information (Identity)

- "Dumpster diving" or rummaging through your trash (*shred your documents!*)
- Stealing your mail (*secure your mailbox*)
- Burglarizing your home or vehicle (*secure belongings. Don't leave documents in car!*).
- Stealing your purse or wallet (*carry credit cards only when necessary*).

- Acquiring your information via the Internet (*when online, use only reputable companies with secured sites*). Understand the practice of "phishing" [www.antiphishing.org](http://www.antiphishing.org)

- Your information is used on applications, such as retail stores, mortgages, or vehicle purchases. Ask the retailer to shred your information after they have completed their transaction. (*Be cautious before allowing a sales person, cashier or server to take your credit / debit card out of your sight!*) Understand the practice of "skimming" [www.identity-theft-protection.com](http://www.identity-theft-protection.com)

## Prevention

- Be extra cautious with your personal information when traveling abroad!!

- Keep personal information in a safe place (*avoid keeping documents in vehicle glove boxes and day-planners*).

- Do not give your social security number over the phone or to unknown person(s), and only give it out when it's required (*don't be afraid to ask "why" they need your social security number!*).

- Shred your personal documents, including bank statements, investment statements, tax notices, etc.

- Order a copy of your credit report from any one of the three credit reporting agencies at least once a year. Review your accounts and information for possible fraud (*credit bureau information is located under "Resources" at the back of this brochure*).

- Use only secured (encrypted) websites when conducting financial transactions online AND make sure it is the correct web address. Do not respond to offers from unsolicited emails (SPAM). Delete them without opening!