Kern County Sheriff’s Office
Identity Theft Information

If SOMEONE'S ILLEGALLY USING YOUR ACCOUNTS OR IDENTIFICATION

If you discover that your personal identifying information is being fraudulently used:

- **Report** the loss or crime immediately to the Sheriff’s Office covering your area.

  - Or, call dispatchers at **661-861-3110** to have a officer take your report.

- IF you live in the communities serviced by a Sheriff’s Office Substation, call the substation for your area:
  
  Mojave 661-868-6372  
  Glennville 661-721-3800  
  Rural Delano 661-721-2121  
  McFarland 661-721-2121  
  Wasco City 661-758-7288  
  Buttonwillow 661-746-5613  
  Lamont 661-868-5751  
  Taft 661-868-6391  
  Frazier Park 661-861-7745  
  Kern Valley (Lake Isabella) 760-549-2100  
  Ridgecrest 760-384-5858
To investigate the crime the Sheriff’s Office must receive **documentary evidence** of the crime. This evidence is **obtained/requested by you** from the business where your personal information was illegally used. You must insure the Sheriff’s Office obtains the documents before an investigation can start.

- **Call all your credit card issuers.** Get replacement cards with **new** account numbers. Ask that the old accounts be processed as "Account closed at consumer’s request."

- **Notify your bank(s) of the loss/theft.** **Cancel** your accounts and obtain new account numbers.


- If you have had **checks stolen or bank accounts set up fraudulently**, report that to:

  - **International Check Services**: 1-800-526-5380
  - **TeleCheck**: 1-800-710-9898
  - **Equifax**: 1-800-437-5120
  - **CheckRite**: 1-800-766-2748
  - **SCAN**: 1-800-262-7771
  - **CrossCheck**: 800-552-1900
• If you use an **ATM card** for banking services, get a new card, account number and password.

• **Call the fraud units of the three credit reporting companies.** Report the theft of your credit cards or numbers. Ask that your accounts be flagged. Also, add a victim’s statement to your request (e.g., "My ID has been used to apply for credit fraudulently. Contact me at 123-456-7891 to verify all applications.")

  **EQUIFAX**  [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)
  Report fraud 1-800-525-6285
  Order copy of report PO Box 740241, Atlanta GA 30374; or call 1-800-685-1111

  **EXPERIAN**  [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)
  Report fraud 1-888-397-3742 FAX 1-800-301-7196
  Order copy of report Experian Consumer Fraud Assistance;
  PO Box 1017, Allen TX 75013-0949

  **TRANS UNION**  [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)
  Report fraud 1-800-680-7289
  Order copy of report PO Box 390, Springfield PA 19064; or call 1-800-916-8800

If your credit card is **used fraudulently on the Internet**, follow the same guidelines you would for any credit card theft.
• If fraudulent charges appear on your account, call the Consumer Credit Counseling Service at 1-800-388-2227 for help in clearing false claims from your credit report.

• If your social security number was used fraudulently, report the problem to the Social Security Administration’s Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271. Your SS card can be replaced by calling 1-800-772-1213 or visiting your local SS office. To get a replacement card, you usually need one identifying document, such as a driver’s license or passport. Your replacement card will have the same number as your old card.

• If you suspect mail theft, notify your local Post Office. Or call for the local Postal Inspector through the national center at 1-877-876-2455 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in all time zones

• If your driver’s license is lost or stolen, you will be able to get a duplicate from your local Dept. of Motor Vehicles. You need to present proper photo ID before a replacement license can be issued (an expired license or other photo ID). If you do not have photo ID, and the Department can verify your identity with your record, you will be issued a temporary non-photo license.

Banking Agencies

If your bank, thrift, savings and loan, or credit union doesn't give you the help you need, you may be able to get help from the agency that charters or supervises them. These agencies also have their own publications regarding ID theft:

FDIC consumer center: 1-800-934-3342
National Banks 1-800-613-6743
National Credit Union Administration 703-518-6360
Federal Reserve consumer affairs: 202-452-3693
Office of Thrift Supervision 202-906-6000

For further information about protecting yourself against ID theft contact:

Federal Trade Commission - toll-free 1-877-438-4338
Attorney General’s Office Consumer Resource Centers - toll-free 1-800-551-4636