

Mail Theft Basics

- Never send cash in the mail. Use checks or money orders.
- Remove mail from mailbox after delivery, especially if you are expecting checks or credit cards. Do not leave mail in your mailbox overnight.
- If you do not receive a check you are expecting, contact the issuer immediately.
- Have your local Post Office hold your mail while you are on vacation.
- Notify the Post Office of address changes.
- Always deposit mail in a mail slot at the Post Office, a blue collection box, or hand it to your letter carrier.
- Do not have packages delivered to your home unless you will be there to accept the delivery.

Resources

Emergency

911

Sheriff's Dispatch

925-646-2441

Internal Revenue Service

800-829-1040

Social Security Administration

800-269-0271

Equifax

1-800-525-6285

Experian

1-888-397-3742

TransUnion

1-800-680-7289

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Mail and Identity Theft



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT

Identity Theft

- Occurs when someone steals your personal information, including, credit cards, and social security number. The thief will then use this information for fraudulent purposes.
- Can cost you time and money
- It can destroy your credit, and livelihood.
- Can possibly prevent you from renting or purchasing a home, getting a job or buying a car because your credit score plummeted and your good name ruined due to identity theft.



Identity Theft Prevention Tips

- Shred financial documents before discarding them.
- Protect your social security number.
- Do not give out personal information unless you know who you are giving it to and what they will do with the information.
- Do not use obvious passwords.
- Keep your information secure.
- Inspect your credit report and financial statements.
- Look for charges you didn't make.
- Be aware if your mail or bills do not arrive.
- Look for any 'denials' of credit, especially if you knowingly did not apply for a line of credit



If You Do Fall Victim To Identity Theft...

- Place a 'Fraud Alert' on your credit reports by calling any one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies, Equifax, Experian, TransUnion.
- Close accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.
- File a police report.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
- If you have reason to believe an identity thief may have submitted a change of address to the post office, contact the Postal Inspection Service.
- If your social security number was compromised contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

