

Victim Kit Office of the Indiana Attorney General – WHAT TO DO AS SOON AS YOU BECOME AWARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN STOLEN AND/OR USED BY SOMEONE ELSE

Victim Kits

As soon as you become aware your personal information has been stolen and/or used by someone else, you should act quickly and follow the steps outlined in the **ID Theft Victim Kit**. The kit was designed as a comprehensive guide to guide victims through the process of clearing their names. Here are the steps you should take:

Promptly report the fraud to your local police department as soon as possible.

Indiana law requires the law enforcement agency where you live to take an official report and provide you with a copy. When you file the report, provide as much documentation as possible, including copies of debt collection letters, credit reports and your notarized ID Theft Affidavit. The police report and complaint number may be needed when contacting creditors. Credit bureaus will automatically block the fraudulent accounts and bad debts from appearing on your credit report if you provide a copy of the police report.

File a complaint with the Attorney General’s ID Theft Unit.

The ID Theft Unit provides assistance to ID theft victims and investigative services to help with the prosecution of identity thieves.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

The FTC maintains a confidential, national ID theft database and may also be able to assist in pursuing identity thieves through federal channels, if applicable. You can file a complaint online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft, or by phone at 1.877.ID.THEFT.

Victims are also encouraged to review their rights as provided by state and federal law. Understanding your rights may help you recover from an identity crime.

Sample letters are available for ID Theft Victims use:

- Letter to consumer reporting agency disputing erroneous entries that resulted from ID theft
- Letter to existing creditors or banks disputing fraudulent charges or debits
- Memo to law enforcement officers explaining importance of police report for ID theft victims (Designed to assist consumers who have difficulty getting local police to take a report)

If you need further assistance, contact the ID Theft Unit at 1.800.382.5516 or by email at IDTheft@agt.in.gov.