

FRAUD ALERT!

ID Theft: Tips to Help Prevent the #1 Crime

Theft of databases such as Lexis/Nexis has increased people's fear of computer hackers. However in Denver, you are far more likely to have your identity stolen via **purse snatchings, mail theft, and dumpster diving**. To significantly reduce your risk of being a victim of identity theft:

- ✓ Wear a close-fitting pouch, instead of carrying a purse or wear your wallet in your front pocket.
- ✓ Don't carry your checkbook, extra credit cards, or Social Security card in public, and don't use your Social Security number on your driver's license.
- ✓ Don't give any part of your Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers over the phone or Internet, unless you have made the contact to a company or financial institution with which you are familiar.
- ✓ Request a free copy of your credit report once a year from each of the three major credit reporting agencies at www.annualcreditreport.com or 1-877-322-8228 (you will have to give them your Social Security Number.)
- ✓ Cancel all unused credit card accounts appearing in your credit report.
- ✓ Call **1-888-567-8688** to "opt out" of credit agency marketing lists and reduce credit card solicitations or opt out online at www.optoutprescreen.com.
- ✓ Shred pre-approved credit card offers and all financial documents with a cross-cut or confetti shredder.
- ✓ Mail bills to be paid at the Post Office, not in your mail box with the red flag raised or in street corner postal receptacles.
- ✓ Have new boxes of checks sent to your bank/credit union, not your home.



**For assistance call the DA's Fraud Line:
720-913-9196 or 720-913-9179**

*CASE is a Partnership of the District Attorney and the
community to Prevent Elder Financial Exploitation*