

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF IDENTITY THEFT

- Carry only the number of credit cards that you need for a specific outing. Keep your Social Security card in a safe place at home.
- Don't give out your personal information unless you initiate the contact.
- If you are doing business online, make sure the site is secure and your anti-virus, firewall and other personal computer security applications are up-to-date.
- Shred all documents that contain personal information before you dispose of them.
- Keep copies of credit cards (front and back) in a safe place so you will be able to call and cancel them if they are stolen.
- Check your credit history at least once a year using www.AnnualCreditReport.com or by calling (877) 322-8228. If you notice suspicious activity, contact the appropriate credit bureau immediately.
- Review your medical, bank and credit card statements thoroughly upon receipt and notify the provider/institution of any discrepancies.



IF YOU BECOME A VICTIM OF IDENTITY THEFT:

 Contact local law enforcement and file a police report.

Ask law enforcement to enroll you in the Ohio Attorney General's Identity Theft Verification PASSPORT Program. This program provides an identification card to show to law enforcement and creditors proving you are a victim of identity theft.

- Immediately place a credit freeze or fraud alert on your credit report so your credit history and rating won't be affected.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by calling (877) ID-THEFT.

If you have questions about identity theft or the Identity Theft Verification PASSPORT Program, please contact the office of Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray at (888) 694-3463.

