

FRAUD

Serving Others. Enriching Lives.

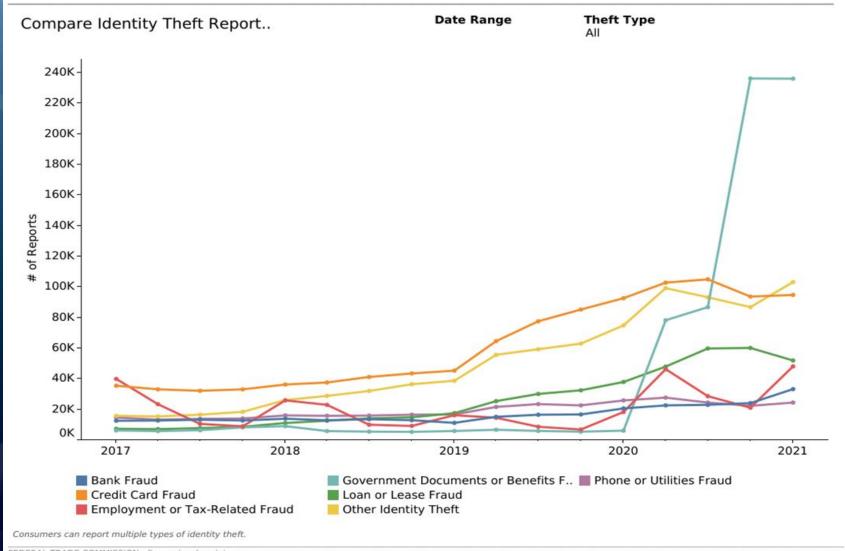
What is Fraud?

> Federal Crime

- >Using someone's personal information for financial or other gain
- ➤Over 1 Million Identity Theft reports in 2020
- Losses from Identity Theft over \$3.3 billion in 2020

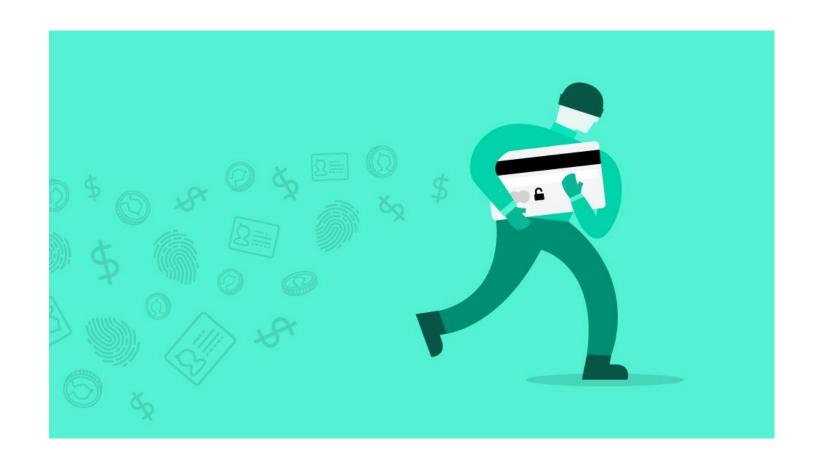
Types of Fraud

- ➤ Credit Card Fraud
- ➤ Government Documents or Benefits Fraud
- ➤ Bank Fraud
- ➤ Employment or Tax-related Fraud
- Loan or Lease Fraud
- Social Media Fraud
- > Phone or Utilities Fraud
- ➤ Identity Theft



How Does Fraud Happen?

- Scams (Phishing, Vishing, and Smishing)
- Mail Theft and Dumpster Diving
- Data Breaches
- Skimming
- Computer Viruses



Phishing

The use of email to deceive people into giving away personal information

Scammers pretend to be a trustable source

➤ Always double check grammar and spelling

>NEVER send important information through email

Vishing

- The use of telephones to deceive people into giving away personal information
- >Scammers will pretend to be IRS or other legal entities
- Scammers will ask you to pay in gift cards
- ➤ Calls will almost always start with automated message
- >NEVER give away personal information over the phone



Smishing

The use of texting to deceive people into giving away personal information

- > Scammers will say that you have won a prize or trip
- Scammers will usually send a link to an unsafe website meant to harvest your information
- >NEVER open links in messages from random texts

Mail Theft and Dumpster Diving

- ➤ Mail Theft occurs when thieves go through your mailbox in order to find documents containing personal information
- Always take outgoing mail containing personal information to the post office
- Dumpster Diving occurs when thieves go through your trash to find documents containing personal information
- Always shred important documents when throwing them away

Data Breaches

- Data Breaches occur when a company has a hole in their system which allows criminals to access personal information about the company's customers
- Stay up to date on companies you have accounts with
- Ask you company what their practice is when a data breach occurs
- ALWAYS know what information you have in what company





Skimming

Skimming is when criminals steal your card information to make purchases or to sell on the dark web

- Card Skimmers fit over card readers at gas stations and ATM's
- These skimmers take your card information so the criminal can make a copy of the card
- >Keypad overlays can also be used by criminals to steal you card PIN

Computer Viruses

- Scammers will use fake warnings to scare you into downloading malicious software
- This software includes spyware, adware, and keyloggers
- These software will record everything you do and type on your computer
- >Your data and personal information will then be sent to the criminal
- >NEVER fall for popup ads claiming your computer has a problem





FLASH PLAYER IS INFECTED:

System Detected (2) Potentially Malicious Viruses: Rootkit.Sirefef.Spy and Trojan.FakeAV-Download. Your Personal & Financial Information MAY NOT BE SAFE.

To Remove Viruses, Please Update Your Flash Video Player:



(Free Flash Update)

Your IP Address: 188.25.77.142 | Generated on 05-22-2014 | Priority: Urgent















How Can I Protect Myself?

- ➤ Strong Passwords
- ➤ Multiple Passwords
- ➤ Do not keep a list of all your passwords on paper or in a word file
- Think before you give away information over the phone
- ➤ Be informed on the latest ways criminals are committing Fraud

Common Sense Defense

- ➤ If you think you are about to be the victim of Fraud, ask yourself these questions:
- ➤ Who am I talking to?
- ➤ Is this person who they claim to be?
- ➤ What does this person want from me?
- ➤ Is this person acting in any way suspicious?

Common Sense Defense

- ➤ If you answer yes to any of those questions you should:
- ➤ Hang up the phone/Turn off your computer
- Remember if you gave away any information and what that information was

Contact your family or the police to report that you may be the victim of Identity Theft/Fraud

What Happens if I am A Victim?

- >If you are a victim of Identity Theft, know it is not the end of the world
- >Try and remember what information you gave to the criminals
- Close any accounts or cards you think the criminals might have access to
- Contact the company you have said accounts with to inform them that you have been a victim of Identity Theft
- ➤ Know that once you have been a victim, your chances for being a victim of Identity Theft again rises

Conclusion

- There are many ways Fraud can happen as criminals are always coming up with new scams
- The number of Fraud related crimes has been rising so now is the best time to be informed
- >Common sense is your best defense against scammers and criminals
- ➤ If you become a victim, know that it will be okay but you will be more vulnerable to Fraud in the future

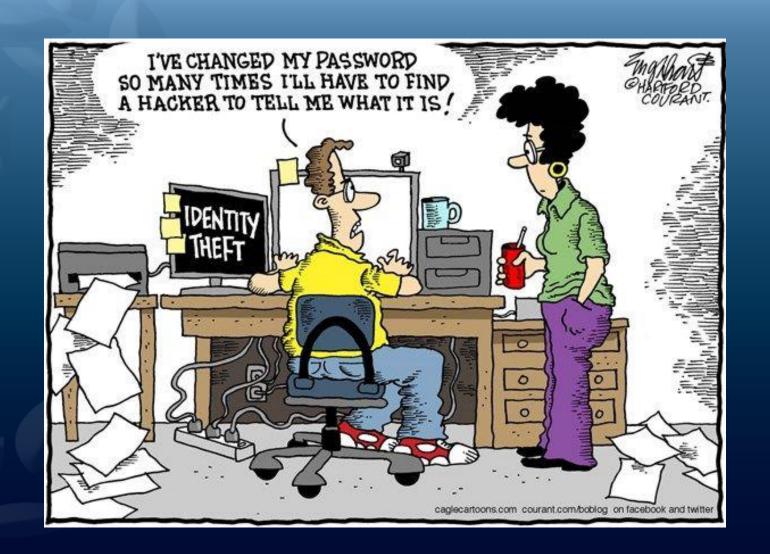
Credit Reporting

> WWW.ANNUALCREDITREPORT.COM

➤ EQUIFAX – The East Coast

► EXPERIAN – The West Coast

➤ TRANS UNION – The Midwest





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