

Nevada Identity Theft Program

The program, designed by the state Legislature, provides identity theft victims a new and effective card to demonstrate that their identity has been stolen. The program card can assist Nevadans with restoring credit and avoiding improper criminal charges.

To be eligible for a Nevada Identity Theft Card, a victim must first file a police report with local law enforcement and fill out an Identity Theft Program Application. When filing a police report, obtain a signature on this application of the person taking your report. The application requires a signature from law enforcement agency personnel that your identity has been verified.

After completing the application process, a qualified victim may receive a secured, personalized identification card.

For more information on the Nevada Identity Theft Program, visit our website at ag.nv.gov.



Identity Theft Laws in Nevada

NRS 205.463 makes it a crime to use personal identifying information of another individual with the intent to fraudulently obtain credit, property or services. It also takes into account computer and Internet technology, and makes it a crime to aid or abet another person in securing this personal identifying information. Anyone convicted of using another person's identity can be punished with up to twenty years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

NRS 205.4651 requires the Nevada Office of the Attorney General to accept applications for and issue identity Theft **PASSPORTS** to Nevada residents who are victims of identity theft. Victims of identity theft are first required to file a report at their local law enforcement office and then apply for the Identity Theft **PASSPORT** through the Attorney General's Office.

Carson City Office

100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717
P: 775-684-1100 / F: 775-684-1108

Las Vegas Office

555 E. Washington Avenue Suite 3900
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
P: 702-486-3420 / F: 702-486-3768

Preventing Identity Theft



Office of the Nevada
Attorney General

AARON D. FORD
Attorney General

What is identity theft? Identity theft is the use of another individual's personal identifying information with the intent to fraudulently obtain credit, property or services. Nevada's identity theft law takes into account computer and Internet technology, and makes it a crime to aid or abet another person in securing this personal identifying information. Identity theft is a crime at both the state and federal levels.

Warning Signs

- You see withdrawals from your bank account that you can't explain.
- You don't receive your bills or other mail.
- Merchants refuse your checks.
- Debt collectors call you about debts that aren't yours.
- You find unfamiliar accounts or charges on your credit report.
- Medical providers bill you for services you didn't use.
- Your health plan rejects your legitimate medical claim because the records show you've reached your benefits limit.
- A health plan won't cover you because your medical records show a condition you don't have.
- The IRS notifies you that more than one tax return was filed in your name.
- You receive notice that your information was compromised by a data breach at a company where you do business or have an account.

What to Do

If you have experienced any of these warning signs, act quickly. Taking these steps will help you limit the damage. Visit IdentityTheft.gov to report identity theft and create a personal recovery plan.

- Call the companies where you believe fraud occurred.
- File a report with your local police department.
- Place a fraud alert on your credit reports and request copies of your report.
- Report identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission.

IdentityTheft.gov can assist with step-by-step instructions specific to your situation.

If your information is lost or stolen, IdentityTheft.gov will also outline the specific steps you can take to help protect yourself from identity theft in the future.

Protecting Your Identity

Make protecting your identity a part of your everyday routine by following these steps:

- Read your credit card and bank statements carefully and often.
- Know your payment due dates. If a bill doesn't show up when you expect it, look into it.
- Read the statements from your health insurance plan. Make sure the claims paid match the care you received.
- Shred any documents with personal and financial information. These items should be shredded immediately: sales receipts, ATM receipts, paid credit card statements, paid utility bills, credit offers, cancelled checks that aren't tax-related, and expired warranties.
- Review each of your three credit reports at least once a year. Visit annualcreditreport.com to get your free reports.

For more information, visit ftc.gov/idtheft.

What do thieves do with your information? They can drain your bank account, run up charges on your credit cards, open new utility accounts, or get medical treatment on your health insurance. An identity thief can also file a tax refund in your name and get your refund.

Securing Online Info

- Don't give out personal information on the phone, through mail or over the Internet, unless you know who you're dealing with.
- Before disposing of a computer/mobile device, wipe all personal information.
- Use strong passwords with your laptop, credit, bank and other accounts.
- Don't overshare on social networking sites. A thief can find information about your life and use it to access your accounts.

Securing Offline Info

- Lock your financial documents in a safe place at home, and keep your wallet safe at work.
- Leave your Social Security card at home.
- Before sharing personal information, ask why it is needed, how it will be safeguarded, and the consequences of not sharing.
- Promptly remove mail that arrives in your mailbox. If you won't be home for several days, request a vacation hold on your mail.
- When ordering new checks, have them mailed to a secure location.

Securing Your Devices

- Install anti-virus software, anti-spyware software and a firewall. Update them often.
- Don't open files, click on links or download programs sent by strangers.
- Keep financial information on your laptop only when necessary. Don't use an automatic login feature, and always log off when you're finished.
- Avoid sending personal information over your laptop or smartphone on an unsecured public wireless network.