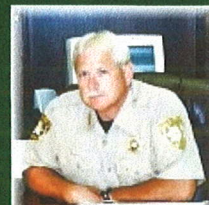


Forsyth County Sheriff's Office



THE SHERIFF'S CORNER

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CONTACT
INFORMATION**EMERGENCY**
911*General Information*
770-781-2222
Non Emergency
770-781-3087**Crime Prevention Unit**
(Neighborhood Watch / Safety
Programs)Sgt Allan Frampton
678-513-5982DFC Henry Plager
678-513-5880DFC Kevin Ferraro
678-513-5977Deputy Courtney Spriggs
770-205-4547DFC Doug Rainwater
678-513-5944**Criminal Investigations**
770-781-2200North Precinct
770-781-3059South Precinct
770-781-3047Special Services
(Animal Control / Ordinance
Violations)
770-781-2138

Websites:

Sheriff's Office
www.forsythsheriff.org

Sheriff Paxton's steps for reporting identity theft

Last month I gave a few tips on protecting yourself from becoming a victim of Identity Theft. Here are the steps to take to report if you become a victim of Identity Theft.

If you are a victim of identity theft, take the following **four steps** as soon as possible, and **keep a record** with the details of your conversations and copies of all correspondence.

1. Place a fraud alert on your credit reports, and review your credit reports.

Contact the toll-free fraud number of any of the three consumer reporting companies below to place a fraud alert on your credit report. You only need to contact one of the three companies to place an alert.

TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289; www.transunion.com; Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834-6790

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; www.equifax.com; P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241

Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); www.experian.com; P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013

Once you place the **fraud alert** in your file, you're entitled to order one free copy of your credit report from each of the three consumer reporting companies, and, if you ask, only the last four digits of your Social Security number will appear on your credit reports.

Continue to check your credit reports periodically, especially for the first year after you discover the identity theft, to make sure no new fraudulent activity has occurred.

2. Close the accounts that you know, or believe, have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

Call and speak with someone in the security or fraud department of each company. Follow up in writing, and include copies (NOT originals) of supporting documents. It's important to notify credit card companies and banks in writing. Send your letters by certified mail, return receipt requested, so you can document what the company received and when. Keep a file of your correspondence and enclosures.

3. File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

You can file a complaint with the FTC using the [online complaint form](#) or call the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline, toll-free: 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338); TTY: 1-866-653-4261; or write Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

The printed FTC ID Theft Complaint, in conjunction with the police report, can constitute an Identity Theft Report and entitle you to certain protections. This Identity Theft Report can be used to (1) permanently block fraudulent information from appearing on your credit report; (2) ensure that debts do not reappear on your credit report; (3) prevent a company from continuing to collect debts that result from identity theft; and (4) place an extended fraud alert on your credit report.

4. File a report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

Call your local police department and tell them that you want to file a report about your identity theft.

When you go to your local police department to file your report, bring a **printed copy of your FTC ID Theft Complaint form**, and your supporting documentation. The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office has White Collar / Identity Theft Crime Investigators that are specially trained to investigate these crimes and communicate with the victims. They can be reached at 770-781-2200.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Ted Paxton