

# RESOURCES

**Federal Trade Commission**  
[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)

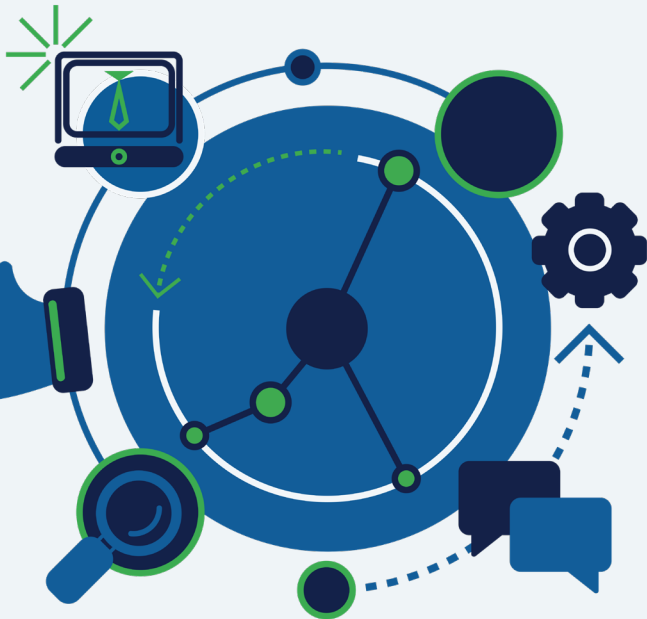
**U.S. Postal Inspection Service**  
[www.uspis.gov/report](http://www.uspis.gov/report)

**Identity Theft Resource Center**  
[www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org)

**FBI Internet Crime Complaint**  
[www.ic3.gov/complaint/default.aspx](http://www.ic3.gov/complaint/default.aspx)

**FBI Scams and Safety Info**  
[www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety)

**Do Not Call List**  
[www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)



# CONTACTS

If you would like more information about fraud and identity theft, please contact your local Crime Prevention Specialist at any of the following locations:

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 45 RANCH SUBSTATION       | (858) 521-5216 |
| ALPINE STATION            | (619) 659-2608 |
| FALLBROOK SUBSTATION      | (760) 451-3124 |
| FINANCIAL CRIMES          | (858) 285-6226 |
| IMPERIAL BEACH SUBSTATION | (619) 498-2435 |
| LAKESIDE SUBSTATION       | (619) 938-1364 |
| LEMON GROVE STATION       | (619) 337-2162 |
| NORTH COASTAL STATION     | (760) 966-3500 |
| POWAY STATION             | (858) 513-2810 |
| RAMONA SUBSTATION         | (760) 738-2425 |
| RANCHO SAN DIEGO STATION  | (619) 660-7090 |
| SAN MARCOS STATION        | (760) 510-5200 |
| SANTEE STATION            | (619) 956-4000 |
| VALLEY CENTER SUBSTATION  | (760) 751-4408 |
| VISTA STATION             | (760) 940-4551 |

If you would like to report identity theft or fraud with the San Diego County Sheriff's Department call (858) 565-5200

[www.sdsheriff.net](http://www.sdsheriff.net)

@SDSheriff



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

# FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT



**CRIME PREVENTION  
RESOURCES**

# REDUCE RISK

- 1** Never pay for anything with gift cards- scammers like to ask for unusual forms of payment so they won't get caught. You cannot pay off warrants with a gift card.
- 2** Do not give out information if you do not have to. Do not sign up for giveaways or programs that will sell your information.
- 3** Shred all documents that have personal information on it if you are disposing of them. Cross-shred the documents before throwing them out.
- 4** Promptly remove your mail from your mailbox after it is delivered. Also keep track of packages and when they will be delivered.
- 5** Never carry your social security card or your passwords with you. Keep both in safe places where only you can find them if they are needed.
- 6** Do not always believe your caller ID. Scammers can mask their phone numbers to be anyone they want to be and will try to get to know you via telephone.
- 7** Do not leave behind receipts. Keep track of all your paperwork.
- 8** Never give out personal information over the phone. Do not give anyone your social security number or credit card numbers over the phone.

# CHECK INFORMATION

## CHECK WHAT INFORMATION IS ALREADY OUT THERE

Scammers and fraudsters often find their information from online sources. Do you know what is displayed online about you? **Google yourself.** If you find yourself on websites that list any of your personal information (e.g. address, birthday, phone number, etc.) then ask them to remove it. Are your social media platforms set to private? Each of your social media platforms should have minimal information about yourself and be set to the highest privacy settings so that your information does not get compromised.

# CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORT

## DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN CHECK YOUR CREDIT FOR FREE THREE TIMES A YEAR?

Each credit bureau offers a free credit check and you do not have to do them all at once. For example, ask for one credit check with Transunion at the beginning of the year; Equifax in the middle of the year; and Experian at the end of the year.



IF YOU  
DOUBT  
SOMETHING,  
QUESTION IT

# CONSIDER A CREDIT FREEZE

IF YOU HAVE EVER BEEN A VICTIM OF IDENTITY THEFT THEN YOU ARE ENTITLED TO FREEZING YOUR CREDIT. EVEN IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN A VICTIM OF IDENTITY THEFT IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO FREEZE YOUR CREDIT.

A credit freeze puts a freeze on creating new credit lines. It does not affect any current credit cards that you own and use, it simply makes it so no one else can create credit in your name. To do this, you must contact each credit bureau and ask for a freeze.

## EQUIFAX

[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
(888) 548-7878

## EXPERIAN

[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
(888) 397-3742

## TRANSUNION

[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)  
(800) 916-8800