

Additional Contacts

Federal Trade Commission

ID Theft Hotline: 1(877)438-4338

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov or 1(800)772-1213

NC State Attorney General's Office

www.ncdoj.gov or (919)716-6400

Credit Bureau

1(800)525-6285

www.equifax.com

www.experian.com

www.transunion.com

Identity Theft Resource Center

www.idtheftcenter.org



NC State Statutes

NC G.S. 14-113.20. Identity Theft.

A person who knowingly obtains, possesses, or uses identifying information of another person, living or dead, with the intent to fraudulently represent that the person is the other person for the purposes of making financial or credit transactions in the other person's name, to obtain anything of value, benefit, or advantage, or for the purpose of avoiding legal consequences is guilty of a felony.

NC G.S. 14-113.21. Venue of offenses.

In any criminal proceeding brought under G.S. 14-113.20, the crime is considered to be committed in the county where the victim resides, where the perpetrator resides, where any part of the identity theft took place, or in any other county instrumental to the completion of the offense, regardless of whether the defendant was ever actually present in that county.

Questions/Comments

Gaston County Police Department
420 W Franklin Blvd.
Gastonia, NC 28052
704-866-3320



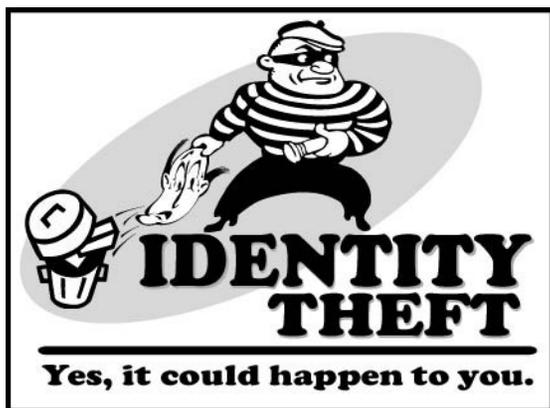
Income Tax Identity Theft

Victim Resource Guide



What is Tax ID Theft?

Tax identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information, such as your Social Security number, without your permission to file a fraudulent tax return or to commit some other crime. It is the most common tax scam that the IRS sees.



How Do You Know If You Are a Victim?

The Federal Trade Commission says there are two red flags that can alert you to potential tax fraud: If the IRS sends you a notice that more than one tax return was filed under your Social Security number, or if IRS records show you were paid by an employer that you've never heard of.

Scammers and Tax Refunds

The IRS will send you a notice or letter. Keep in mind, the IRS will never initiate contact through email, text message, or social media channels asking taxpayers for personal or financial information. So if you do receive something via those lines of communication, it's almost certainly a phishing scam, which is when victims receive an unsolicited email from what looks like the IRS. The email will prompt them to go to an IRS website, which is fake, and ask them to enter in personal information. Once that information is captured, the scammer use that information to commit fraud or other crimes in the victims' names.

If you suspect you are a victim of tax-related ID theft, call the IRS's Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490 to report fraud. The identity theft may not stop with your taxes. After you've reported the theft to the IRS, the FTC says, it is important to check your credit reports for fraudulent activity, put a fraud alert on your credit reports, and create an Identity Theft Report by filing a police report and complaint with the FTC on their website, which is

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>.

Victim Information

Note: IRS Tax form 14039 must be filled out and submitted by the tax fraud victim.

Call: IRS—1(800)829-1040 and/or IRS Accounts Dept.—1-800-829-0922 Monday—Friday 7:00 am—7:00pm

Website: www.irs.gov

Locate Form 14039
or Form 14039SP (Spanish)
Fill out the form and submit it to the address on the form.

Make sure you file the Form 14039 or 14039SP with the IRS and complete a paper tax return and include copies of 2 (two) forms of photo ID.

You **CANNOT** file electronic tax returns after this point. You will need to file paper forms from this point on. This is at the request of the IRS, **NOT** the Gaston County Police Department.