

DATA BREACH

**Colorado
Bureau of
Investigation
Identity Theft
&
Fraud Unit**

**24 HOUR
IDENTITY THEFT
& FRAUD
HOTLINE
1-855-443-3489
(TOLL FREE)**

**VICTIM
ADVOCATE
303-239-4649**

**EMAIL
CBI.STOPIDTHEFT
@ STATE.CO.US**



Tips Following A Data Breach

Identity Thieves are creative when it comes to obtaining information your business may keep stored in a computer system. Theft of computers, hacking into systems or infecting computers with viruses all put your business at risk. Prevention is the best option. But what happens if your best efforts are not enough to keep the ID thief at bay?

Under Colorado Law, your business has an obligation to notify potential victims of the Data Breach. Here are some tips you could provide that will help potential victim protect their identity:

- ♦ Report the ID Theft to the Federal Trade Commission and complete an Identity Theft Affidavit. Many agencies you will deal with will ask for this Affidavit. This may be done on-line at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/consumers/filing-a-report.html>
- ♦ Contact your bank or credit union, especially if the data breach included any of your financial information, such as information for direct deposit. Discuss your options with your financial institution. Some will suggest closing accounts, while others have extensive fraud protection programs and will closely monitor your accounts for fraudulent usage
- ♦ Contact one of the three credit reporting bureaus and notify them that you may be a victim of Identity Theft. Place a Fraud Alert on your credit. You only need to contact one of the three bureaus. That agency will contact the other two and add an alert on your behalf
- ♦ Consider placing a temporary Credit Freeze on your credit account. While speaking with the credit reporting bureau, you may ask for information about placing a freeze. You must request a Credit Freeze in writing, so placing the initial Fraud Alert will help protect your credit while you process the Credit Freeze
- ♦ Obtain a copy of your credit report so that you will know what is on your report before any potential ID theft has occurred. Placing Fraud Alerts, Credit Freezes and obtaining your credit report are free to you in Colorado as a victim of ID Theft

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- ◆ If your health insurance or other benefit program information was compromised, contact your carriers and alert them of the breach.
- ◆ If the data breach included a copy of your drivers license or state ID, notify the Division of Motor Vehicles of the theft
- ◆ Be alert to any unusual mail or emails that you receive. Communications about your loan application, your new credit card or an overdue payment on accounts that you do not have may indicate ID theft
- ◆ If the IRS notifies you that someone has filed tax returns in your name, call the Colorado Bureau of Investigation for help right away
- ◆ Report any suspicious activity to your local law enforcement agency or to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation immediately
- ◆ Learn more about Identity Theft and ways to protect yourself by contacting the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Victim Assistance Program at 303-239-4649

**For more information or a community presentation please
contact**

Colorado Bureau of Investigation

303-239-4649

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