



Bonney Lake Police Department

Identity Theft Resource Guide

In an effort to better assist the citizens of Bonney Lake who have been victimized by identity theft, the Bonney Lake Police Department provides these simple steps to help in the prevention of and recovery from identity theft.

In 2017, the state of Washington was ranked #16 in the nation for identity theft (according to ftc.gov) and it is the fastest growing crime. Being a victim of identity theft can be very confusing, frustrating, and time consuming. This section has been designed to provide you with the resources to start the process of getting your identity back. By utilizing the steps listed below, you will be headed in the right direction. **If you are a victim of identity theft or fraud, please get and keep all papers, receipts, cancelled checks, financial documents, collection notices, etc. related to this crime.** These documents will be needed to file a police report.

STEP 1: Contact your local police department to file a report (Bonney Lake Police Department, 253-841-5431). The designated case number issued by Police will be needed by other agencies to further assist you. Any and all documentation you have collected will be needed for the police report.

STEP 2: Report ID Theft with your banking establishment and creditors (credit cards, department store charge cards, etc.). You may need to cancel accounts and get new accounts issued.

STEP 3: You Will need to call one of the following 3 major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert. Placing a fraud alert will not allow the suspect to open up any new credit accounts. Once the fraud alert is in place, the credit bureau you reported with will notify the other two credit bureaus.

Equifax	http://www.equifax.com/	1-800-525-6285
Experian	http://www.experian.com/	1-888-397-3742
Trans Union	http://www.transunion.com/	1-800-680-7289

STEP 4: Contact the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to report identity theft:

FTC	http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft	1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)
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STEP 5: Contact the Washington Department of Licensing (DOL):

DOL	http://www.dol.wa.gov/driverslicense/	1-360-902-3900
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STEP 6: Contact the Washington State Attorney General's office to file a credit report security freeze (credit cannot be shared nor can you open new credit) and a fraud alert (a comment on your credit history):

WA State Attorney General	http://attg.wa.gov/freeze.aspx	1-800-551-4636
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Tips in Preventing Identity Theft:

- 1.) Protect your social security number by only giving it out when required by law: Privacy Act 1974: 5 USC 552a <http://www.usdoj.gov/opcl/privstat.htm>



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- 2.) Mailbox Security is one of the easiest ways to prevent identity theft. Avoid mail and identity theft by obtaining a secured mailbox (Example: P.O. Box or locked mailbox).
- 3.) Shred your mail to include financial statements, credit card applications, social security documentation, etc.
- 4.) No banking establishment or other legitimate business should send you an email requesting personal information from you (social security number, driver's license number, credit card account information, financial information, etc.). The email will look authentic; however, it will take you to a different website where your information will be stolen.
- 5.) Only give your personal information out over the phone **if you initiated** the call and know who you are speaking with.

The Bonney Lake Police Department is working hard at taking a proactive stance in fighting this rapidly growing crime.

If you need further assistance, or have questions, please contact the Bonney Lake Police Department.

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