



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY PROTECTION DIVISION



MICHAEL T. DOUGHERTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TOP TEN WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT

- Consider a **credit freeze** if you do not anticipate applying for credit now or in the near future. Visit our website or call us for a copy of the information on freezing your credit: www.bouldercounty.org/da.
- Be sure you are on the **no-call list** for your home and cell phone: 1-888-382-1222 or www.donotcall.gov (federal) and 1-800-309-7041 or <http://coloradonocall.com/> (Colorado).
- **Do not respond** to an e-mail that purports to be from an agency needing your information or indicating your information has been compromised (credit card company, e-Bay, bank, IRS, FBI, etc.). Do not click on any link to “correct information.” Call first, using a number from your statement or credit card.
- **Check your credit report** via www.AnnualCreditReport.com. If you do not have access to the Internet, call 1-877-322-8228. We recommend making three separate requests during the year (one request per year from each credit reporting agency is free) so there is more opportunity to monitor activity on your report.
- **Shred** all mail and any other information containing personal identification and account numbers (especially “pre-approved credit” offers). Do not put outgoing mail in your mailbox, don’t use the red flag, and pick up your mail immediately.
- Never give out personal and/or financial information over the phone or the Internet unless you initiate the contact and are certain you are dealing with a secure site.
- **Be alert** for email messages that say they are from a friend, or indicate that a friend or relative is in trouble and needs help – you may be dealing with a crook. File a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center if any e-mail contains a threat or extortion attempt – www.ic3.gov/complaint .
- Do not put trash out the night before and do not put any personal identifying information in the trash – including account numbers or insurance information.
- Do not wire money or provide personal information to anyone on an auction site or a social networking site without checking it out thoroughly.
- **Monitor** bills and credit card activity carefully each month. Report any discrepancies immediately to your financial institution. Safeguard passwords and all personal and medical information.

For more information, call the Community Protection Division 303 441-3700

BOULDER OFFICE: JUSTICE CENTER, 1777 6TH ST., BOULDER, COLORADO 80302 303.441.3700 FAX: 303.441.4703

LONGMONT OFFICE: 1035 KIMBARK, LONGMONT, COLORADO 80501 303.441.3700 FAX: 303.682.6711

WWW.BOULDERCOUNTY.ORG/DISTRICT-ATTORNEY/EMAIL: BOULDER.DA@BOULDERCOUNTY.ORG TDD/V: 303.441.4774

© Boulder County District Attorney's Community Protection Division 2018