QUICK TIPS ON PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST ID THEFT!

- Do not put your Social Security number on any documents, unless it is legally required.
- Talk with your attorney regarding documentation to be submitted to the Register of Deeds office for recordation. Make sure you follow-up so personal information like social security numbers and financial accounts are not submitted on public record.
- Personal checks. Do not order checks with your Social Security Number or Driver's License Number on them.
- Check your credit report several times a year to make sure it doesn't have unfamiliar accounts.
- Shred or burn papers with credit card or bank account numbers, Social Security numbers, etc.

IDENTITY THEFT TELEPHONE HOTLINE NUMBERS

If you are a victim of identity theft, call the fraud hotline for one of the three major credit-reporting agencies. As part of a new plan, the other two will be notified:

- Equifax (800) 525-6285
- Experian (888) 397-3742
- TransUnion (800) 680-7289

You can file a complaint:

Federal Trade Commission - (877) 438-4338;

Other government ID theft hotlines:

- Social Security Administration (800) 269-0271
- Internal Revenue Service (800) 829-1040
- Federal Trade Commission Toll Free Hotline

1-877-IDTHEFT

LINKS

Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft website

Most Common Forms of ID theft" graph from Federal Trade Commission

Identity Theft and Your Social Security Number

Social Security Administration Online

US Secret Service

US Department of Justice (Identity Theft section)

Presidential Press Release on the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003

<u>Identity Theft Prevention and Survival website</u>

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse

US Postal Service

Better Business Bureau