

Your Guide to Identity Theft

- ✓ How It Happens
- ✓ What to Watch For
- ✓ How to Better Defend Against It

idwatchdog[®]
from Equifax

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What is Identity Theft?

Identity theft is complex. We'll explore the wide range of identity theft.

For 2022 plan rates, please visit:
hr.mit.edu/benefits/identity

Six Different Types

- Financial
- Tax
- Medical
- Employment
- Child
- Criminal

How Identity Theft Happens

- Electronic
- Low-tech methods

Warning Signs

- Adult
- Children

How to Better Protect Yourself

- Passwords
- Devices
- Internet
- General

Financial Identity Theft

New account fraud jumped by 88% in 2019¹

- 13 million incidents of identity fraud in 2019, totaling \$16.9 billion in losses²
- Credit card fraud tops the list of identity theft crimes¹
- 80% of credit cards may have already been compromised³

How Stolen PII Is Used for Financial Fraud and the Potential Impact

- Impersonate the victim to make online purchases that they may have to pay for or resolve with their financial institution
- Open new online accounts, checking accounts, or credit card accounts that the victim may be responsible for

¹ FTC Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book 2019

² Javelin 2020 Identity Fraud Study: Genesis of the Identity Fraud Crisis

³ "Credit cards surging in 2019—fraud too" Green Sheet

Tax Identity Theft

Thieves Aim to File a Fake Tax Return Before the Victim Does

- Tax-related identity theft is one of the most common tax scams¹
- The IRS accepts only one tax return per Social Security number²

How Stolen PII Is Used for Tax Fraud and the Potential Impact

- File a fraudulent tax return in the victim's name and collect their refund before they have a chance to file
- Cause the victim's own tax filing to be rejected, resulting in delays and issues with the IRS

¹ "Identity theft remains on the IRS' "Dirty Dozen" list despite progress" IRS

² "How soon can you file your tax return? Why should you file ASAP?" *USA Today*

Medical Identity Theft

Fictitious Medical Information Could Plague the Victim for Years

- Medical identity theft can cause great harm to its victims¹
- Fraudsters may target healthcare data because it can have a longer shelf life than financial information²
- 101% increase in medical identity theft cases in 2019³
- Medical ID theft is the more costly and least understood type of identity theft

¹ "Medical Identity Theft" World Privacy Forum

² "Medical ID theft" Fraud.org

³ "Medical Identity Theft" AARP

How Stolen PII Is Used for Medical Fraud and the Potential Impact

- File erroneous medical claims that the victim has to pay
- Use insurance for medical diagnoses that the victim does not have and could result in future misdiagnoses, treatment delays, or incorrect prescriptions
- Max out insurance payout which cancels the policy leaving the victim without insurance and potentially making it more difficult to get new insurance

Employment Identity Theft

Opposing Goals: Thieves Seeking
Employment—Or Unemployment Benefits

- Scammers may file fraudulent unemployment claims¹
- Fraudsters may use a falsified or stolen ID to get a job²
- Unemployment benefits fraud can impact individuals both with and without a current position

How Stolen PII Is Used for Employment Fraud and the Potential Impact

- File fraudulent unemployment benefits claims that the victim has to resolve with their employer or the IRS
- Use the victim's identity to get a job, which could lead to problems resolving misreported income

¹ "U.S. unemployment systems are under attack, Secret Service says" *Benefits Pro*

² "Types of Identity Theft" *Michigan Department of Treasury*

Child Identity Theft

Children Can Be the Perfect Mark for Identity Thieves

- Child identity fraud affects one out of every 50 children¹
- It costs US families almost \$1 billion annually to resolve¹
- Each victimized family loses more than \$1,100 per incident on average.¹
- A child represents a clean slate for opening new lines of credit²

How Stolen PII Is Used for Child Identity Fraud and the Potential Impact

- Open new lines of credit or loans that go into collection or default and remain on the child's credit
- Damage a child's credit and make it difficult for them to qualify in the future for student loans, get credit cards, or rent a place to live

¹ Javelin, "Child Identity Fraud: A Web of Deception and Loss"

² "FBI Tech Tuesday: Building a Digital Defense Against Child ID Theft" FBI

Criminal Identity Theft

An Identity Thief's Crimes Can Become the Victim's

- Though rare, criminal identity theft can occur when someone cited or arrested for a crime uses the victim's identity¹
- Often the victim is completely unaware that they have a criminal record²
- It can be difficult to resolve, because the victim often appears to be the criminal³

How Stolen PII Is Used for Criminal Fraud and the Potential Impact

- Use the victim's name during an arrest potentially leading to a criminal record the victim isn't aware of
- Cause the victim to be denied employment or fired from a job after criminal activity appears during a background check

¹ "Criminal Identity Theft" State of California Office of the Attorney General

² "Identity Theft: Criminal Identity Theft" Georgia Department of Law Consumer Protection Division

³ "Identity Theft" National Association of Insurance Commissioners

Warning Signs of Identity Theft

Financial Identity Theft:

- Unfamiliar account activity
- Expected bills not arriving
- Unfamiliar accounts on credit report
- Debt collection calls
- Data breach notification

Medical Identity Theft:

- Unfamiliar medical bills
- Rejected medical claim
- Rejected health plan

Tax Identity Theft:

- Rejected tax e-filing
- IRS notice about suspicious tax return
- IRS notice regarding an unexpected online account
- IRS records with wages from an unfamiliar employer

Common Warning Signs of Child ID Theft

- Credit offers in child's name
- IRS notice that child owes unpaid taxes
- Collection calls for a debt in child's name
- Bills for products or services in the child's name
- Government benefits declined under child's Social Security number

How ID Watchdog Can Help

Identity theft is **complex** and can seem **overwhelming**.

You don't have to face it alone.

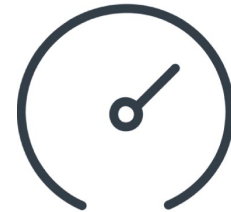
ID Watchdog Identity Theft Protection Services can provide greater peace of mind by:



Giving you greater protection and control over your financial information



Offering features to help you better protect your family, both children and adult dependents




Designing our features to be easy to set up and manage

ID Watchdog has features to help notify you of potential identity theft while **helping you better protect yourself against fraud.**

Monitor & Detect

- By monitoring your credit and **billions of data points**, we help keep you informed of changes and activity related to your personal information.
- ID Watchdog plans include credit, identity, dark web,¹ subprime loan,² and social media monitoring.
- The most common way victims discovered new account fraud in 2018 was notification by a credit monitoring or identity protection service.³



“ If you spot activity that might result from identity theft or a mistake, you can take steps to resolve that problem before it grows .”⁴

~ Federal Trade Commission
Consumer Information



¹Dark Web Monitoring scans thousands of internet sites where consumers' personal information is suspected of being bought and sold, and is constantly adding new sites to those it searches. However, the internet addresses of these suspected internet trading sites are not published and frequently change, so there is no guarantee that ID Watchdog is able to locate and search every possible internet site where consumers' personal information is at risk of being traded.

²The monitored network does not cover all businesses or transactions.

³“Credit Card Fraud Is Down, But Account Fraud That Directly Hurts Consumers Remains High” *Forbes*

⁴FTC Consumer Information: Identity Theft Protection Services



Control & Manage

Customize what you want to be alerted on and how you want to be notified

Activate Multi-Bureau Lock for added control over your credit reports

- Since potential creditors can't check your credit report, locks¹ help better protect against identity thieves from opening new accounts in your name.

¹ Locking your Equifax credit report will prevent access to it by certain third parties. Locking your Equifax credit report will not prevent access to your credit report at any other credit reporting agency. Entities that may still have access to your Equifax credit report include: companies like ID Watchdog, which provide you with access to your credit report or credit score, or monitor your credit report as part of a subscription or similar service; companies that provide you with a copy of your credit report or credit score, upon your request; federal, state, and local government agencies and courts in certain circumstances; companies using the information in connection with the underwriting of insurance, or for employment, tenant or background screening purposes; companies that have a current account or relationship with you, and collection agencies acting on behalf of those whom you owe; companies that authenticate a consumer's identity for purposes other than granting credit, or for investigating or preventing actual or potential fraud; and companies that wish to make pre-approved offers of credit or insurance to you. To opt out of pre-approved offers, visit www.optoutprescreen.com.



Control & Manage

ID Watchdog has teamed with NordSec to bring you NordVPN – the #1 industry ranked VPN¹

Set up your Personal VPN to:

- Connect to the internet securely and anonymously on up to 6 devices (yours and your family's) at the same time
- Browse safely with additional protection from malicious websites and device-controlling botnets while blocking pop-up ads and videos
- Help keep your online identity safe while traveling worldwide (across the US and in 59 other countries)

Use your Password Manager to:

- More securely manage login credentials for all your accounts
- Avoid password reuse
- Strengthen passwords

¹ "10 Best VPNs in 2021 for PC, Mac & Phone – 100% Secure" vpnmentor.com



Support & Restore

If your personal information is lost or stolen, you don't have to face it alone.
We're here for you 24 hours a day, seven days week.

Resolution for Pre-Existing Conditions

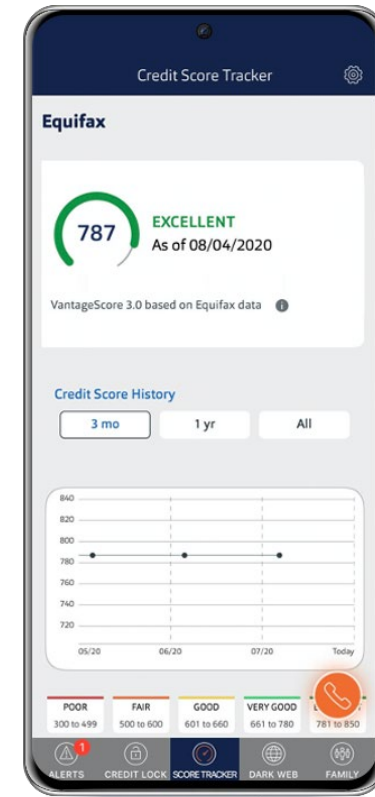
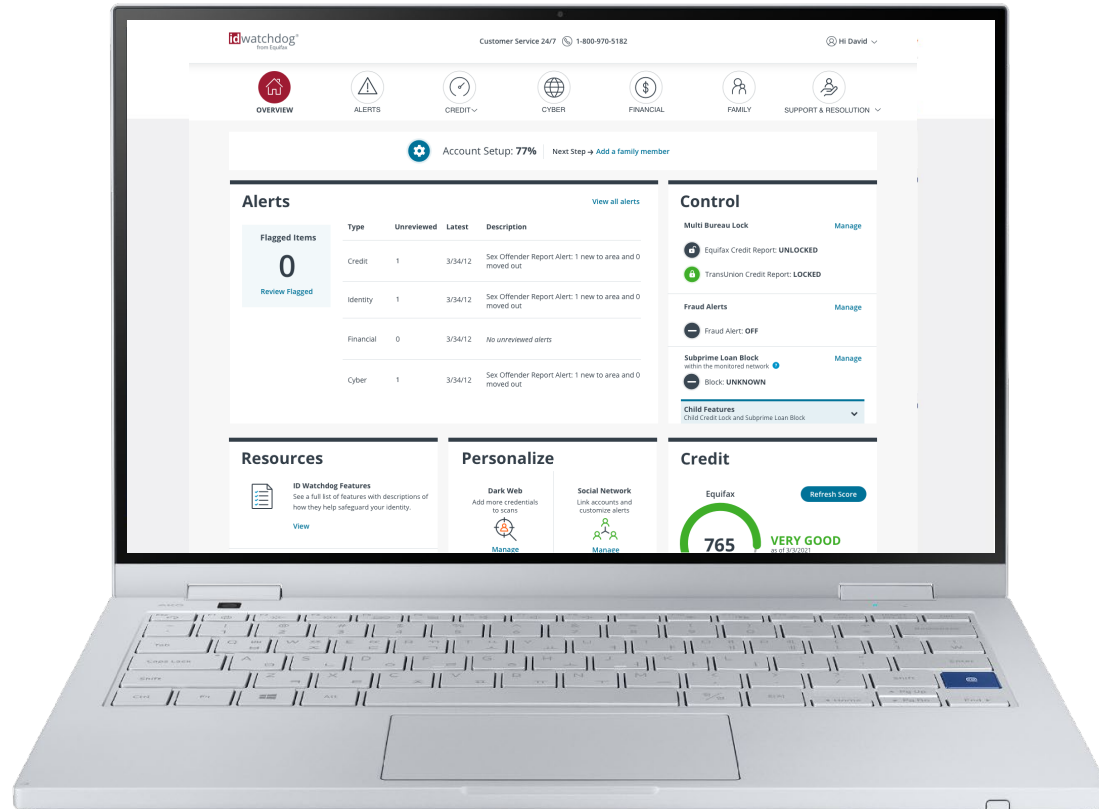
- Provides full-service resolution for pre-existing identity theft regardless of when it occurred.

Identity Theft Insurance¹

- Provides up to \$1 million of reimbursement for certain out-of-pocket costs related to the recovery of your identity. The insurance includes stolen funds reimbursement for unrecoverable, fraudulent electronic transfers from checking, savings, and money market accounts.

¹ The Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions. Review the Summary of Benefits.

ID Watchdog Dashboard & Mobile App



Welcome to ID Watchdog

idwatchdog
From Equifax

Welcome to ID Watchdog

10/8/21 7:52 AM
ACCOUNT COVERAGE
Benefits: Platinum + Family
Effective Date: 04/15/21

Dear John,

Thank you for signing up for ID Watchdog's credit monitoring and identity theft protection service through Best Employer benefits. ID Watchdog is everywhere you can't be—monitoring credit reports, social media, transaction records, public records and more—to help you better protect the identities of you and your family. And we're always here for you; our customer care team is available 24/7/365 at 866.513.1518.

Certain features of your service are active; however, to gain the most benefit from your service, you must create an online account to turn on other features. Plus, choose what you want to be alerted on and how you want to be notified—you won't have to wait for monthly alerts via mail.

CREATE AN ONLINE ACCOUNT

From the Account Access Table, click on the Account Access Link that appears next to your name and follow the online instructions. When setting up your account, we recommend using a personal email address since your alerts will cover personal rather than business information. By enrolling in ID Watchdog's services, you have agreed to our Terms & Conditions: www.idwatchdog.com/terms.

ADD DEPENDENTS

Please review the Account Access Table. If any of your dependents are not listed, follow the steps below to add them through your online account.

1. Log into your ID Watchdog account.
2. Select Family from the top menu bar.
3. Click the orange Add Family Member button at the top of the left column.
4. Enter each dependent's information.

Each adult dependent (18 years or older) you add to your plan will receive an email with their personal Account Access Link. They will need to register for their own account to receive credit monitoring and other features.

ACCOUNT ACCESS TABLE

Member Name	Account Access Link	Access Code
Test, John	https://portal.idwatchdog.com/welcome/KE0081	KE0081
Brown, Johnny	**Member No Account Access	No Code Required
Blackman, Jim	**Member No Account Access	No Code Required
Blackman, Bill	**Member No Account Access	No Code Required
John, Jane	https://portal.idwatchdog.com/welcome/OL381A	OL381A
Blackman, Bill	**Member No Account Access	No Code Required

*No Account Access: While all dependents are automatically enrolled, those do not have account access due to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

Questions? Call 1-800-970-5182 (24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week)

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idwatchdog
From Equifax

Welcome to ID Watchdog
January 1, 2021

John Test
123 Main St
Denver, CO 80301

Dear John,

Thank you for signing up for ID Watchdog's credit monitoring and identity theft protection service through your employer's benefits. ID Watchdog is everywhere you can't be—monitoring credit reports, social media, transaction records, public records and more—to help you better protect the identities of you and your family. And we're always here for you; our customer care team is available 24/7/365 at 866.513.1518.

Certain features of your service are active; however, to gain the most benefit from your service, you must create an online account to turn on other features. Plus, choose what you want to be alerted on and how you want to be notified—you won't have to wait for monthly alerts via mail.

Create an Online Account

From the Account Access Table on the next page, type the Account Access Link that appears next to your name into your internet browser and follow the online instructions. By enrolling in ID Watchdog's services, you have agreed to our Terms & Conditions: www.idwatchdog.com/terms.

Confirm Email Address

A welcome email was sent to riggs@example.com that all future correspondence will be delivered to. We recommend using a personal email address. Update your email address through your online account.

Confirm Dependents

If any of your dependents are not listed in the Account Access Table, follow the steps below to add them through your online account.

Check Your Alerts

As an ID Watchdog subscriber, you will begin to receive alerts. You can take immediate action if necessary via text message, phone call, or mobile App. You can also adjust your alert preferences in your online account.

Account Access Table

Member Name	Account Access Link	Access Code
Riggs, Martin	https://portal.idwatchdog.com/welcome/OL381A	OL381A

Questions? Call 1-866-513-1518 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

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Rev. October 2020

FACTS WHAT DOES ID WATCHDOG DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?

Why? Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.

What? The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include:

- Social Security number and credit card information
- Payment history and transaction history
- Credit history and credit scores

When you are no longer our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice.

How? All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons ID Watchdog chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.


Reasons we can share your personal information	Does ID Watchdog share?	Can you limit this sharing?
For our everyday business purposes—such as to process your transactions, maintain your accounts, respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	YES	NO
For our marketing purposes—to offer our products and services to you	YES	NO
For joint marketing with other financial companies	NO	We do not share
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your transactions and experiences	YES	NO
For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your creditworthiness	NO	We do not share
For our affiliates to market to you	NO	We do not share
For non-affiliates to market to you	NO	We do not share

Questions? For additional information, contact us at 1-866-513-1518, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Our menu will prompt you through your choice(s).

- When you join ID Watchdog, you will receive a welcome email and mailed letter with a copy of our privacy notice.
- The welcome email and letter include your activation code so you can create an online account and gain access to all of your features.

Portability

If you are having trouble reading this email, [read the online version.](#)

 **idwatchdog**
from Equifax

Continue Your Identity Protection
Simply & Affordably

Dear <name>,

We've noticed you left, and we can think of billions of reasons why you should come back to ID Watchdog. We monitor your credit and billions of data points, so we can alert you to changes to your personal information that could be a sign of fraud.

And, if you ever become a victim of identity theft, you don't have to face it alone. One of our certified resolution specialists will fully manage your case until it is resolved.




It's Affordable...and Fast

It takes just a few minutes to continue your service with ID Watchdog.

- 1 Simply call 866.513.1518 and update your billing information to a credit or debit card.
- 2 Lock in the same low, monthly rate you received through your employer. You may cancel at any time; however, we do not provide partial month refunds.*

Sincerely,
Your ID Watchdog Team

*You will need to provide your payment information when you sign up. We will immediately charge your card the stated price and will charge the card that amount for each month you continue your subscription. You may cancel at any time; however, we do not provide partial month refunds.

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What happens if I leave my employer but wish to continue my coverage?

ID Watchdog has you covered. You will receive an email communication explaining how you can continue with our service.



Identity Theft Protection

The Powerful Features You Want
All at an Affordable Price

Thank You!