



City of Yakima
Police Department

200 S. 3rd Street

Yakima, Washington 98901

Sam Granato, Chief of Police

Telephone (509) 575-6200 Fax (509) 575-3039

Dear Sir or Madam:

You have made a report to the Yakima Police Department. In the event that you are a victim of theft or lost checks, credit cards, social security cards, identification cards or other personal information, there are safety precautions that you must take.

When your checks are stolen, suspects might try to fill them out and cash them or use the account number and manufacture counterfeit checks. The best safety precaution is to close the account completely, not just put a stop on the numbers of the stolen checks. It is also advisable to call local discount department stores, payday loan/check-cashing stores, casinos and other retailers that cash checks to advise them not to take checks that have your specific checking account number. They might need to verify your identity before taking this action to prevent imposters from calling businesses to keep them from cashing your checks.

Cancel all stolen credit or debit cards immediately by contacting the issuing financial institutions. Review your credit card statements as soon as possible to see if any charges were made on your account before you were able to cancel the cards. Your financial institution employees can advise you how to take care of any fraudulent charges.

When social security identification cards are stolen you should contact one of the three credit reporting organizations to attach a fraud alert to your name and social security number. This will alert businesses to request additional information from people applying for credit to confirm that it is, in fact, you. When you apply for credit and they ask for additional information you know the system is working.

If you have the Internet you can place a fraud alert on your name by going to www.transunion.com, www.experian.com or www.equifax.com. When you notify one agency, they will tell the other two. All three credit-reporting organizations have toll-free numbers as follows: Equifax: 1(800) 525-6285 Transunion: 1(800) 680-7289 Experian: 1(888) 397-3742

You should definitely contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at www.comsumer.gov/idtheft or toll free 1(877) 438-4338 to report all cases of identity theft after notifying the local police.

If you have any additional questions please contact me at the number listed below. Please have your case number ready so I can refer to your case when you call. For additional information you can view the Washington State Attorney General's Office at www.wa.gov/ago. Another resource is the Better Business Bureau at www.thelocalbbb.com or 1(800) 356-1007.