

SENIOR BRIGADE

www.seniorbrigade.com



Protect Yourself: Identity Theft

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Protect Yourself: Identity Theft

- Recognizing senior scams

AWARE!

- Protecting yourself from fraud

AVOID!

- Steps to take if you become a victim

ACTION!



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What is Identity Theft? *(cont.)*



Personal Information:

- Social Security Number
- Credit Card Number
- Banking or Financial Information
- Date of Birth
- Mother's Maiden Name



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What do thieves do with a stolen identity?

- Government documents fraud
- Other fraud
 - Job using your SSN
 - Rent house
 - Medical services
 - Give your information to police during an arrest



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Protect yourself from identity theft

DO NOT GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFORMATION

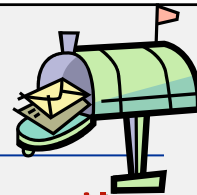
- over the phone
- through the mail
- on the Internet

UNLESS YOU INITIATE THE CONTACT!



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Protect Yourself!



Be cautious with your mail:

- promptly remove mail
- secure outgoing mail
- shred or cut-up private records & statements




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Protect Yourself!

- Opt-Out/Stop credit offers:

- Telephone 

1-888-567-8688

- Online 

www.optoutprescreen.com



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Protect Yourself!



- Carefully and promptly review statements and bills.
- Protect your Social Security / Medicare card & number.
- Pick up checks at your bank.



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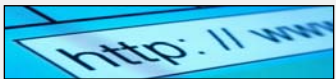
Protect Yourself!

- Limit information on personal checks.
- Create a master list & photo copy important identification.
- Obtain free credit reports
(1 every 4 months = 3 / year!)



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Ordering Free Credit Reports

- Mail 
Forms available – handout
- Telephone 
1-877-322-8228 (toll-free)
- Online 
www.annualcreditreport.com



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Take ACTION if you become a victim

Obtain the FTC's publication,

"Defend: Recover From
Identity Theft"

www.ftc.gov/idtheft



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Take ACTION if you become a victim



1. Place a Fraud Alert on Your Credit Report and Review Your Credit Reports – contact one of following:

- **Equifax:** 1-800-525-6285
- **Experian:** 1-888-397-3742
- **TransUnion:** 1-800-680-7289



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Take ACTION if you become a victim

2. Close the Accounts that you Know, or Believe, have been Tampered with or Opened Fraudulently.

- Dispute fraudulent transactions.
- Ask for confirmation letter.



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Take ACTION if you become a victim

3. Notify the FTC.

- Speak to Counselor & File Complaint.
 - 1-877-438-4338 &
 - www.ftc.gov/idtheft



4. File a Police Report.



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SeniorBrigade.com

SeniorBrigade
A MICHIGAN SENIORS WEBSITE

Providing valuable information and resources to Michigan seniors

Google™ Custom Search

HEALTH CARE | FINANCIAL MATTERS | CONSUMER PROTECTION | VETERANS AFFAIRS | CONTACT US

Click to enlarge text size: **A A A**

Protect Yourself, Protect Your Future

Now more than ever, seniors need information to help them with financial and health care decisions, and that will protect them against scam artists and predators. Nationwide, as many as 5,000,000 seniors fall victim to financial abuse each year.



Click here to watch Mike Cox's video message

This website is a clearinghouse for helpful information on consumer protection, financial matters, health care issues and veterans' services. It provides links to a wide variety of state and federal programs to help make informed decisions that can benefit you and your family.

The Senior Brigade also features a statewide calendar of events, sorted by

Senior Events Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F
			1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	



REGISTER ONLINE

Receive FREE Senior Brigade programming at your location.



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[Click here to watch Attorney General Cox's video message.](#)

SENIORBRIGADE GUIDE

A printable brochure for Michigan Seniors to assist them with issues regarding Consumer Protection, Financial Matters and Health Care.

Click here for a [text only version](#).

LOW PRICE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

A site to search more than 150 commonly prescribed drugs in Michigan for the lowest possible price. Searchable by zip code, city, or pharmacy.

MICHIGAN ATTORNEY GENERAL

A direct connection to Michigan's Chief Law Enforcement Officer

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR

Michigan House of Representatives and Senate websites provide assistance in locating and contacting a Representative or Senator by county, district number or name.

Immediately report it to one of the consumer reporting companies: Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; Experian 1-888-397-3742; or TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289.

The company you call is required to contact the other two companies. Also visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft for other tips.

> [Click here to see more QuickTips.](#)

Send us your comments

We'd like to hear from you! Let us know what you think of SeniorBrigade.com and if there are any changes you would like to see.

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