



### **If I become a victim.**

#### **Should I still worry about protecting my identity?**

Yes. Without a disciplined approach to protecting your data, you risk repeated victimization.

If you do become a victim of Identity theft, report it to law enforcement as soon as possible. You can use the Federal Trade Commission's toll-free number (1-877-ID-THEFT) or online complaint form. Prompt reporting will help the authorities pursue leads and find the bad guys.

For more information about Identity theft, check out the following Web sites:

#### **Federal Trade Commission Identity Theft**

<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft>

#### **Department of Justice's Identity Theft and Fraud**

<http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/idtheft.html>

#### **Identity Theft Resource Center**

<http://www.idtheftcenter.org>

#### **What about changing my Social Security number?**

In most cases, this is not advised. Over the years, that number has been attached to numerous documents, including credit reports and various other private and government records.

Moreover, the Social Security Administration is reluctant to issue replacement Social Security numbers except in very complicated or extreme cases.

