Identity Theft / Fraud

If you are a Teaneck resident and have been a victim of Identity Theft or Fraud, no matter where the incident occurred, you can file a report with the Teaneck Police Department. In addition, if your account information or identity has been used in Teaneck, you can also file a report with the Teaneck Police Department. All Identity Theft and Fraud reports will be processed by the Department.

NOTE: If your account information or identity has been used in Teaneck but you are unable to respond to the Teaneck Police Department to file the report, you can file a report with your local Police Department and they will refer the case to us.

Instructions for Reporting Fraud / ID Theft

Step 1. Obtain a notarized affidavit of forgery from your bank as well as any bank/credit card statements that show fraudulent activity.

Note: If neither of the above items can be obtained, please provide the victim notification letter you received from the creditor informing you of the fraudulent charges/accounts.

- Step 2. Fill out the Fraud / ID Theft form in its entirety. The Fraud / ID Theft form is included in the Fraud / ID Theft Packet. NOTE: The link to the Fraud / ID Theft Packet is located below, following Step 5.
- Step 3. Attach all documentation (affidavit of forgery, bank/credit statements, copies of checks, etc.,) to the Fraud / ID Theft form and turn it in to the Teaneck Police Department front desk anytime or online at https://www.teanecknj.gov/policereport

Note: You will be asked to provide a valid picture identification.

- Step 4. A Teaneck Police Department investigation report will be generated and copies of the Fraud / ID Theft form and any documentation provided will be made. The original Fraud / ID Theft form and any documentation provided will be returned to you to retain for your records.
- Step 5. The entire packet will then be forwarded to the Teaneck Police Detective Division for review.
 - a. A Teaneck Police Detective assigned to your case will contact you within 5 business days and inform you of any referrals or the status of your case if the reported theft or fraud occurred within the city limits of Teaneck.
 - b. If found that the crime had occurred in another police jurisdiction, your report will be referred to the appropriate Police Department.

Note: Generally, a bank or credit card company will require evidence that a crime has occurred when responding to illegal charges paid from your bank account or credit card. An assigned case number is one of many steps in successfully addressing wrongful charges made to your credit.

WARNING: A person provides a false report if he/she willfully makes any untrue, misleading, or exaggerated statements in any report to a Police Department which is in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:28-4b. If it is discovered that a person makes a false report, the Teaneck Police Department will pursue prosecution to the fullest extent.

Reporting Fraud / Identity Theft at the Teaneck Police Department

This Teaneck PD Fraud / ID Theft Packet includes:

Instructions for reporting Fraud / ID Theft Identity Theft Information Sheet (retain for you records / information) Fraud / ID Theft reporting form

<u>Instructions for reporting Fraud / ID Theft</u>

- 1. Fill out the Fraud I ID Theft form in its entirety. Please print legibly.

 TIP: Answer questions 5 and 10 on the Fraud / ID Theft form as if you were speaking to an Officer.
- 2. Attach all documentation you have (affidavit of forgery, bank/ credit statements, copies of checks, etc.) to the Fraud / ID Theft reporting form and tum in to the Teaneck Police Department front desk anytime. (NOTE: you will be asked to provide a valid picture ID).
- 3. A Teaneck Police Department investigation report will be generated and copies of the Fraud / ID Theft form and any documentation provided will be made. The original Fraud / ID Theft form and any documentation provided will be returned to you to retain for your records.
- 4. The following items must be provided before any investigation will be conducted:
 - a. A notarized affidavit of forgery from your bank.
 - b. An account printout from your bank or online with all the fraudulent activity highlighted. The printout must list the account number and account holder's name.
 - c. Copies of any forged checks.
 - *If none of the above listed can be obtained, please contact the Teaneck Police Department Detectives to find out what documents you will need to provide.
- 5. Once information is received (see# 4), the entire packet will then be forwarded to the Teaneck Police Department Detective Division for review.
 - a. If found that the crime has occurred in another Police jurisdiction, your report will be referred to the appropriate Police Department.

b. You will be contacted by a Detective from the Teaneck Police Department assigned to your case informing you of any referrals / closures of your case.

REMINDER: Your case will be closed unless/until you provide the information listed in item# 4.

INTERNET CRIMES: Please report internet crimes to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov. This is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of investigation (FBI), the National White-Collar Crime Center (NW3C), and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

SOCIAL SECURITY CRIMES: Please also report crimes involving your social security number/card to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 1-877-ID-THEFT or 1-877-438-4338.

If you have any questions feel free to contact the Teaneck Police Department - Detective Division Monday- Friday (08:00am – 11:00pm) 900 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666 201-837-2600 x3010

Identity Theft Information

Resources and Other Steps to Help You Avoid Becoming a Victim of Identity Theft

Make Use of Opt-Out Provisions

Opt-out of pre-approved offers of credit and marketing lists by calling 1-800-680-7293 or 1-888-50POUT. Or write to:

Equifax Options, P.O. Box 740123, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241 Experian, P.O. Box 919, Allen, TX 75013 Trans Union, P.O. Box 97328, Jackson, MS 39238

Opt-out of credit reporting industry pre-screened credit approvals by calling 1-888-567-8688. Remove your name, address and telephone number from mail and telephone lists through Direct Marketing Association.

Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735. Telephone Preference Service, P.O. Box 9014, Farmingdale, NY 11735.

CAUTION: Do not give any OPT-OUT service your Social Security Number, Date of Birth, Mothers Maiden name or other personal identification information.

Seek Independent Legal Advice

In matters such as Identity Theft, pursuit of a remedy exclusively through the criminal justice system may be insufficient. In these types of cases, the criminal justice system cannot always provide individuals with the level of relief they may seek. Therefore, victims of Identity Theft are strongly encouraged to seek the assistance of an attorney of their own choice for any civil or

other remedies that may be available. For individuals who cannot afford an attorney, they can contact the State Bar Association or Legal Services.

Addresses and telephone numbers for those entities in New Jersey are listed below, or consult the telephone directory for your local Bar Association.

New Jersey State Bar Association 1 Constitution Square New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1500 732-249-5000 www.njsba.com

Legal Services of New Jersey 100 Metroplex Dr. at Plainfield Ave., Suite 402 P.O. Box 1357, Edison, NJ 08818-1357 732-572-9100 or 1-888-LSNJ-LAW www.lsnj.org

In addition, Legal Aid Clinics at the Rutgers University Law Schools in Camden and Newark, and at the Seton Hal University Law School in Newark are available.

Other Sources of Assistance

For information about obtaining free credit reports, visit the Division of Consumer Affairs or contact them at 1-800-242-5846

There are non-government, non-profit groups which have been established to provide assistance to victims of identity theft. One group is:

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse Identity Theft Resource Center P.O. Box 226833, San Diego, California 92196 858-693-7935 www.privacyrights.org or www.idtheftcenter.org

Tips to Avoid Identity Theft - Tips to avoid having your identity stolen: https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft

The above information was obtained from the Website of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office - Division of Criminal Justice: https://www.njoag.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/division-of-criminal-justice-home/

Where To Go for More Information:

Federal Trade Commission

Accepts Complaints from ID Theft Victims Phone: (877) ID-THEFT (877-438-4338) Website: http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft

New Jersey state Attorney General's Office

Posts information on its website Website: https://www.njoag.gov/

US Postal Service

To report theft of mail or fraudulent change of address form use P.O. Box400 Phone: (877) 876-2455

Website: http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors

Social Security Administration

P.O. Box 17768 Baltimore, MD 21235 Fraud Hotline: (800) 269-0271 (1:00pm to 7:00pm PST) Fax: (410) 597-0118

E-mail: https://www.ssa.gov/

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission

To report suspected fraud or criminal behavior that is related to MVC operations

Call their 24-hour MVC Tip Line toll-free:

866-TIPS-MVC (1-866-847-7682)

Motor Vehicle Commission Victim Assistance Unit

P.O. Box 166

Trenton, NJ 08666

609-633-9450

Credit Reporting Agencies

It is important to include your social security number and current address when writing to the following credit bureaus:

Equifax	Experian	Trans Union
P.O. Box 105069	P.O. Box 9532	P.O. Box 6790
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Fullerton, CA 92834
1-800-685-1111	1-888-397-3742 or 1-888 EXPERIAN	1-800-888-4213
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com	www.transunion.com