

In an effort to provide victims the most personable law enforcement services possible, the Hollywood Police Department has established an Economic Crimes Unit that deals exclusively with these types of crimes.

After making your initial report via phone to an officer, or in person at the Hollywood Police Department, your case will be reviewed by the Unit Supervisor. A Detective will contact you about your case. If your case meets established guidelines it will be assigned for investigation.

You can contact an Economics Detective at the Hollywood Police Department at 3250 Hollywood Boulevard, or by calling 954.967.4411, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

[www.hollywoodpolice.org](http://www.hollywoodpolice.org)

## Helpful Information

United States Secret Service  
[www.secretservice.gov](http://www.secretservice.gov)

Social Security "Hot Line"  
1.800.269.0271  
*Investigates fraudulent use of Social Security numbers*

Federal Trade Commission  
[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)  
1.877.438.4338  
*Consumer Response Center-Identity Theft*

United States Postal Inspectors  
[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)  
954.436.7200  
*Investigates mail fraud and fraudulent applications for credit by mail*

Consumer Credit Counseling Service  
1.800.388.2227  
*Advice and directions for victims*

IRS  
[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)  
*Investigates Tax Fraud*

FBI - Internet Fraud  
[www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud)

City of Hollywood Building Department  
[www.hollywoodfl.org](http://www.hollywoodfl.org)

Broward County Building Codes Service Division  
[www.broward.org/building/welcome.htm](http://www.broward.org/building/welcome.htm)

Division of Business and Professional Regulation  
[www.myflorida.com/dbpr](http://www.myflorida.com/dbpr)

Florida Division of Worker's Compensation  
[www.flds.com/WCAPP/Compliance\\_POC/wPages](http://www.flds.com/WCAPP/Compliance_POC/wPages)

Research Moving Companies  
[www.protectyourmove.gov](http://www.protectyourmove.gov)

# Fraud and Identity Theft



City of  
**HOLLYWOOD**  
**POLICE**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
Economic Crimes Unit

The Office of the  
Chief of Police



Identity theft cases are very difficult to prove beyond a reasonable doubt because there is often little or no physical evidence to identify a suspect. Businesses are normally unable to provide necessary evidence in the form of written documentation such as signed applications, contracts, receipts, etc. Often, there is no actual personal contact with the perpetrator when the fraudulent act occurs.

## STEPS TO TAKE

### Identity Theft

- Contact your bank(s) and credit card companies to cancel cards
- Alert the 3 credit bureaus and place a fraud alert on your credit file
- File a police report in the jurisdiction where the fraud occurred
- Call the Federal Trade Commission to report the situation
- Contact your local office of the Postal Inspection Service
- Notify the Social Security Administration
- Contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

### Fraudulent or Stolen Checks

- Immediately notify your financial institution
- File a police report in the jurisdiction where the check was cashed and obtain a case number for follow-up

### After Filing A Report

You may receive information such as an address, phone number, or an email used to commit the fraud. This information may be a possible lead in the investigation but may not be enough to make an immediate arrest or to submit the case to the State Attorney's Office.

Remain in contact with your financial institution and the police department to determine the outcome of the investigation and any decision to prosecute.

### Safeguarding Your Information

- Shred financial documents and paperwork containing personal information
- Don't give out personal information over the phone, through the mail or over the internet
- Always know the location of your debit and credit cards
- Never click on links sent in unsolicited emails

- Beware of fictitious contests and lotteries requesting money to be sent to collect winnings
- Check ATMs for signs of tampering
- When using ATMs, cover key pad when entering pin numbers and ensure all transactions are completed before leaving the terminal

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

### Credit Bureaus

TransUnion	800.680.7289 <a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>
Equifax	800.525.6285 <a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>
Experian	888.397.3742 <a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>

### Local Police Departments

Hallandale	954.457.1400
Davie	954.693.8200
Pembroke Pines	954.431.2200
Miramar	954.602.4000
Broward County Sheriff	954.765.4321
Ft. Lauderdale	954.828.5700
Aventura	305.466.8989
North Miami	305.891.8111
Miami Gardens	305.474.6473
Miami Dade	305.476.5423
Miami	305.579.6111