

## BE ALERT ON THE TELEPHONE

- ⇒ Don't give any information to strangers or "wrong number" callers.
- ⇒ Never give your home address or personal information, especially your social security number, to persons on the telephone or in "chat rooms" on the internet.
- ⇒ Hang up on obscene callers or on people who won't identify themselves.
- ⇒ If callers make threatening statements, contact the police.



## GENERAL SAFETY RULES WHILE IN PUBLIC PLACES

- ⇒ Always approach your car or your home with your keys already in your hands.
- ⇒ If you are suspicious of a person or circumstance, go immediately to a safe place.
- ⇒ Carry your wallet in your front pocket or in an inside jacket to thwart pickpockets.
- ⇒ To discourage purse-snatchers, hold your purse firmly and secure the clasp. Never leave your purse unattended (i.e., hanging on a restroom door, in a shopping cart, etc.)



### What is identity theft?

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information, like your name, Social Security number, or credit card number, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes.

### How do thieves steal an identity?

Identity theft starts with the misuse of your personally identifying information such as your name and Social Security number, credit card numbers, or other financial account information. For identity thieves, this information is as good as gold.

### What do thieves do with a stolen identity?

Once they have your personal information, identity thieves use it in a variety of ways.

### Credit card fraud:

They may open new credit card accounts in your name. When they use the cards and don't pay the bills, the delinquent accounts appear on your credit report.

They may change the billing address on your credit card so that you no longer receive bills, and then run up charges on your account. Because your bills are now sent to a different address, it may be some time before you realize there's a problem.

**For more information visit the website below.**

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

Compliments of:

**Coeur d'Alene Police Department  
3818 Schreiber Way**

**Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
208-769-2320**

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# PERSONAL SAFETY



## SAFETY TIPS

Compliments of:

**Coeur d'Alene Police Department  
3818 Schreiber Way**

**Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
208-769-2320**



# PERSONAL SAFETY

## BE ALERT WHERE YOU LIVE

- ⇒ Be sure the doors of your residence are locked when you are there as well as when you're away.
- ⇒ Use peepholes to identify people before opening the door.
- ⇒ Require identification from service providers and telephone the company to verify service calls.
- ⇒ Don't let anyone you don't know well inside your residence to use the phone; make the call for them.
- ⇒ Never indicate to anyone that you are alone.
- ⇒ Close curtains, blinds and shades at night.
- ⇒ List your initials instead of your first name on your mailbox and in the telephone directory.
- ⇒ Always have your key ready for quick entry into your residence.
- ⇒ Have a telephone readily available near your bed for quick use at night.
- ⇒ If you find a door or window open or signs of forced entry upon arriving at your residence, **DO NOT ENTER!** Go to the nearest phone and call the police.



## BE ALERT WHEN WALKING, BIKING OR JOGGING



- ⇒ Always walk, ride or jog with another person, if at all possible.
- ⇒ Stay alert in your surroundings—make eye contact with everyone.
- ⇒ Avoid isolated areas.
- ⇒ Don't carry a lot of cash or valuables.
- ⇒ When walking or jogging, stay on the side of the street facing traffic.
- ⇒ If a car appears to be following you, turn and walk in the opposite direction.
- ⇒ If a driver stops to ask directions, avoid getting near the vehicle.
- ⇒ Carry a whistle and use it if you feel you are in danger.
- ⇒ Above all, be aware of your surroundings and the people around you.



## BE ALERT IN VEHICLES

- ⇒ Always have your keys ready when you approach your vehicle.
- ⇒ Check inside your vehicle before entering.
- ⇒ Always keep your vehicle locked with windows up, even while driving.
- ⇒ Park in well-lighted areas.
- ⇒ Avoid isolated roads and short-cuts.
- ⇒ Never pick up hitchhikers or people you don't know well.
- ⇒ Keep your vehicle in good repair. Make certain you have enough fuel.
- ⇒ Remain inside your vehicle if you develop mechanical problems.
- ⇒ If you are followed, drive to the nearest business for help, or go to a police or fire station.
- ⇒ When dropping someone off, wait until passengers have safely entered their residence or destination.

