



ID Theft Resource Guide for Active Duty Service Members

There are several steps we recommend you consider to ensure that your person information is as secure as possible while you are on deployment:

- **Place an "Active Duty Alert" on your credit account.**
 - To place an alert on your account, contact the three credit bureaus listed below and request an Active Duty Alert be placed on your credit account. An alert can be done either over the phone or online at the address listed below.
 - Equifax: 1-888-766-0008; www.alerts.equifax.com
 - Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); www.experian.com/fraud/center.html
 - TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289; www.transunion.com
 - The alert will be on your report for one year. If you are on deployment for more than one year you may place an alert on your account as many times as needed. It notifies creditors that you are a member of the U.S. military and that you are currently on active duty.
 - Businesses must verify your identity before issuing credit in your name, making it significantly more difficult for thieves to establish or alter credit in your name.
 - When you add an Active Duty Alert, your name is also removed from lists for preapproved offers for two years.
- **Shred** personal information, mail, medical and financial statements, etc. to the extent possible. For information you must store at home, secure it as best as possible.
- **Review your bank and credit card statements** to ensure you identify the moment when a problem arises with your credit or checking account.
- **Order a copy of your credit report.**
 - Watch for red flags, such as inquiries from companies you do not recognize and accounts you did not open. You are eligible to receive a free credit report from each of the three credit reporting bureaus each year. By contacting the numbers for the credit agencies or going online a report can be easily obtained.
- **Never to confirm or verify account information through email.** Many scammers utilize the convenience of email to solicit information from their victims. Emails may appear to be from many mainstream online companies such as your bank or online auction sites. Even if it looks official. Instead, call the customer service number listed on the company's billing statement to check an account.
- **Opt out of pre-screened credit card** offers by calling 888-5-OPTOUT (888-567-8688) or online at www.optoutprescreen.com.
- **Act Quickly to Minimize Damage.** If you suspect you are a victim of identity theft, contact us below immediately for additional information to help guide you through the recovery process of contacting the appropriate law enforcement and financial institutions. You can get a free copy of our Identity Theft Repair Kit brochure by visiting our Web site at www.azag.gov or calling the Arizona Attorney General Identity Theft Help Line:
 - 602-542-2145 (Phoenix) • 520-628-6504 (Tucson)
 - 800-352-8431 (Outside Maricopa and Pima Counties)