

## Who to Contact

Stop Business Identity Theft Web site:  
[www.protectyourbusiness.us](http://www.protectyourbusiness.us)



**Colorado Secretary of State  
Business Division**  
1700 Broadway, Ste. 200  
Denver, CO 80290  
Phone: 303-894-2200 option 2

E-mail: [business@sos.state.co.us](mailto:business@sos.state.co.us)  
Website: [www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/business](http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/business)



**Colorado Bureau of Investigation  
Identity Theft Unit**  
690 Kipling Street, Ste. 3000  
Denver, CO 80215  
Phone: 303-239-4201

E-mail: [cbi.denver@cdps.state.co.us](mailto:cbi.denver@cdps.state.co.us)  
Website:  
[cbi.state.co.us/inv/ID\\_Theft/Index\\_IDTheft.html](http://cbi.state.co.us/inv/ID_Theft/Index_IDTheft.html)



**Colorado Attorney General**  
1525 Sherman Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: 303-866-4500

E-mail: [stop.fraud@state.co.us](mailto:stop.fraud@state.co.us)  
Website:  
[www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov/identitytheft](http://www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov/identitytheft)

## Business ID Theft Resource Guide

The Colorado Bureau of Investigation ID Theft Unit, the Colorado Attorney General, and the Colorado Secretary of State have developed the Business Identity Theft Resource Guide to provide businesses and their representatives with a complete reference guide on business identity theft.

This guide is available at  
[www.protectyourbusiness.us](http://www.protectyourbusiness.us)

## Thanks to...

We would like to thank the Colorado Bankers Association, the Secretary of State's Business Advisory Committee, the Colorado Bar Association, and the Chambers of Commerce for helping to distribute this information to the business community.



# Business Identity Theft

Protecting Your Business  
&  
Resources for Victims

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## What is business identity theft?

Business identity theft is a relatively new development in identity theft. In the case of a business, a criminal “hijacks” a business’ identity and uses that identity, and the business’ good credit history, to establish lines of credit with banks or retailers. Using this credit, the identity thief purchases goods, gift cards, and other items that can be bought and exchanged for cash or sold with relative ease.

The damage can be devastating to the victimized business. The damage to the victim’s credit history can lead to denial of credit, which can lead to operational problems. The cost to clean-up and correct the damage can be hundreds of dollars and hours of lost time.

## What can a business do?

This pamphlet and other materials were created to help businesses reduce the threat and to help those businesses that have already fallen victim to these crimes.

## Protect Your Business

Take the following initial steps to protect your business from business identity theft:

- Subscribe to the Secretary of State’s e-mail notification services.
- Sign up for Secure Business Filing at the Secretary of State.
- Obtain a commercial credit report for your business.
- Sign up for electronic notifications with your bank, other creditors, and service providers.

These are your first steps to protecting your business. Your effort should not stop there. For more information on additional steps to protect your business, see the Business Identity Theft Resource Guide available at [www.protectyourbusiness.us](http://www.protectyourbusiness.us).



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## Victims of Business Identity Theft

If you believe your business is a victim of business identity theft, you should immediately take the following steps to begin the recovery process:

- Report the theft to your local law enforcement agency.
- Contact all of your business’ banks or credit providers and report the theft.
- Contact the largest credit reporting agencies and speak with the Fraud Department to report the crime and view your business credit report.

For a complete guide and victim checklist, see the Business Identity Theft Resource Guide available at [www.protectyourbusiness.us](http://www.protectyourbusiness.us).

If you need support, contact the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and request the help of a Victim’s Advocate.