

Identity Theft IQ Test Are You at Risk for Identity Theft? Test Your "Identity Quotient"

From: <http://www.privacyrights.org/index.htm>

- ___ I receive several offers of pre-approved credit every week. **(5 points)**
- ___ **Add 5 points** if you do not shred them before putting them in the trash.
- ___ I carry my Social Security card in my wallet. **(10 points)**
- ___ My state driver's license has my SSN printed on it, and I have not contacted the Department of Motor Vehicles to request a different number. **(10 points)**
- ___ I do not have a PO Box or a locked, secured mailbox. **(5 points)**
- ___ I use an unlocked, open box at work or at my home to drop off my outgoing mail. **(10 pts.)**
- ___ I carry my military ID in my wallet at all times. **(10 points)**
- ___ I do not shred or tear banking and credit information when I throw it in the trash. **(10 pts.)**
- ___ I provide my Social Security number (SSN) whenever asked, without asking questions as to how that information will be safeguarded. **(10 points)**
- ___ **Add 5 points** if you provide it orally without checking to see who might be listening.
- ___ I am required to use my SSN at work as an employee ID or at college as a student ID number. **(5 points)**
- ___ My SSN is printed on my employee badge that I wear at work or in public. Or it is posted on my time card in full view of others, or is on other documents frequently seen by many others in my workplace. **(10 points)**
- ___ I have my SSN and/or driver's license number printed on my personal checks. **(10 points)**
- ___ I am listed in a "Who's Who" guide. **(5 points)**

- ___ I carry my insurance card in my wallet and either my SSN or that of my spouse is the ID number. **(10 points)**
- ___ I have not ordered a copy of my credit reports for at least 2 years. **(20 points)**
- ___ I do not believe that people would root around in my trash looking for credit or financial information or looking for documents containing my SSN. **(10 points)**

Each one of these questions represents a possible avenue for an identity thief.

Understanding Your Score:

- 100 + points - Recent surveys* indicate that 7-10 million people were victims of ID theft last year. You are at high risk. We recommend you purchase a paper shredder, become more security-aware in document handling, and start to question why people need your personal data.
- 50-100 points - Your odds of being victimized are about average. Higher if you have good credit.
- 0-50 points - Congratulations. You have a high "IQ." Keep up the good work and don't let your guard down now.

* For information on recent identity theft survey findings, visit the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse web site at www.privacyrights.org/ar/idtheftsurveys.htm.

For a list of tips on reducing your risk of identity theft, read our Fact Sheet 17, "Coping with Identity Theft: Reducing the Risk of Fraud," at www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs17-it.htm. Remember, you cannot prevent identity theft. Criminals can commit identity theft relatively easily because of lax credit industry practices and the ease of obtaining SSNs. But you can reduce your risk of fraud by following the tips in Fact Sheet 17. The most important advice we can give you is to check your credit report at least once a year. If you are a victim of identity theft, you will catch it early by checking your credit report regularly

November 16, 2005

Joint Chapter Meeting

Evergreen Chapter & Puget Sound Chapter

Information Technology and Identity Theft... What Should *WE* Be Doing?

The Association of Information Technology Professionals



“Identity Theft– Still a Major Problem”

- Snohomish County Sheriff's website

“Identity theft remains a major problem in the US and the state of Washington. According to the Attorney General's Office 5,654 complaints were filed in 2004 for ID Theft. Nationally, the state of Washington ranked 8th in the number of ID Thefts per capita.

In recent months ID Theft has captured the headlines with revelations of the hacking, theft and loss of personal data from major financial and data handling institutions such as LexisNexis and ChoicePoint.”*

Washington, D.C. - The FBI today is providing a warning to the public against an ongoing scheme involving jury service. The public needs to be aware that individuals identifying themselves as U.S. court employees have been telephonically contacting citizens and advising them that they have been selected for jury duty. These individuals ask to verify names and Social Security numbers, then ask for credit card numbers. If the request is refused, citizens are then threatened with fines. *Washington, D.C.* - The FBI today is providing a warning to the public against an ongoing scheme involving jury service. The public needs to be aware that individuals identifying themselves as U.S. court employees have been telephonically contacting citizens and advising them that they have been selected for jury duty. These individuals ask to verify names and Social Security numbers, then ask for credit card numbers. If the request is refused, citizens are then threatened with fines.**

The Evergreen Chapter
Association of Information
Technology Professionals
invites you to join us at

The Flying Pig
2929 Colby Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Wednesday,
November 16, 2005

6-7 PM — Networking and Social
7-8 PM — Dinner
8-9 PM — Program and Discussion

Members & Guests \$23
EdCC Student Chapter Mbrs \$17

Coffee/sodas included
Other beverages additional



Take I-5 North to the Everett Pacific Avenue exit, turn West (left) and head up Pacific to Colby Avenue. Turn right for a block and a half. The meeting room is down the stairs that are a few feet inside the front door. For more detailed directions, see our website:
<http://cis.acs.edcc.edu/aitp/evergreenchapter>

Join us as a representative from the **Snohomish County Sheriff's Office** brings us up to date on **Identity Theft in our community** and brings the view point of law enforcement to **What we in Information Technology should be doing to reduce the threat to our customers, our employees, and ourselves.**

Reservations are required for this meeting.
Please contact Mr. Kim Fischer 425-261-5603 or
kim.fischer@verizon.com

* http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Sheriff/Services/Crime_Prevention/IdentityTheft_Still_A_Major_Problem.htm

** <http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel05/092805.htm>

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