

## **Identity Theft Protection**

Identity theft occurs when a crook steals key pieces of personal identifying information, which may include a name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, and mother's maiden name, to gain access to a person's financial accounts.

## **TIPS**

- ✓ Report lost or stolen credit cards to the issuer immediately.
- ✓ Sign your new credit cards, before someone else does.
- ✓ Memorize your Social Security number and passwords: don't carry them with you. Do not use your date of birth as your password.
- ✓ Do not leave receipts behind at the Automatic Teller Machines (ATM), on counters at financial institutions, or at gasoline pumps.
- ✓ Match credit card receipts against monthly bills and check financial statements for accuracy.
- ✓ Do not leave mail in your mailbox overnight or on weekends.
- ✓ Shred unwanted documents that contain personal information.
- ✓ Review your consumer credit report annually.

Direct any inquires relative to this correspondence to the Senior Services Section, at 312-745-5141.