

Community Newsletter

Sheriff's Office

541-440-4450



Dispatch

Non-Emergency

541-440-4471

Emergency

9-1-1

Community Outreach

Andrea Zielinski

541-440-4486

Records Division

541-440-4463

Civil Processing

541-440-4468

Patrol Division

541-440-4457

Investigations

541-440-4458

Drug Activity Tip Line

541-440-4474

Search and Rescue

541-440-4448

Marine Patrol

541-440-4447

Douglas County Jail

541-440-4440

Animal Control

541-440-4327

Concealed Handgun

Licensing

541-957-2021

7 Ways to Prevent Identity Theft



In the course of the day, you do many activities that put your personal information at risk – from writing a check at the store to charging merchandise in person or over the phone. You may not think twice about these transactions, but others might.

Identity theft – when a perpetrator assumes someone's identity for personal or financial gain, like stealing a credit card to make financial transactions in the victim's name – is the fastest-growing crime in America.

According to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, there were almost 10 million cases of identity theft in 2004, which cost consumers \$5 billion.

The National Citizens' Crime Prevention Council aims to educate consumers about what they can do to prevent identity theft. The council offers the following tips:

1. Do not give out your personal information unless you initiate the contact or know the person or company with whom you are dealing. Also, never disclose personal information, such as a Social Security number or bank account number, in response to an email. Legitimate businesses will not ask you to do this.

2. Do not disclose your credit card number to an online vendor unless it is encrypted and the site is secure. Look at the first part of the Web address on your browser. It should read <https://>.
3. Do not write your Social Security number or telephone number on checks or credit card receipts.
4. Remove all documents with personal information from your hard drive before discarding your computer or sending it in for repair.
5. Shred discarded documents, including preapproved credit card applications, bank statements, store receipts and utility bills. "Dumpster divers" can gain access to your personal information if such items are thrown in the trash.
6. Cancel all credit cards that have not been used in the last six months. Open credit is a prime target for thieves.
7. Order your credit report at least twice a year and report any mistakes to the credit reporting agency in writing.

If you are a victim of identity theft, contact your local police department as soon as possible. If your identity was stolen in one jurisdiction but used in another, you may have to report the crime in both jurisdictions.

To learn more about preventing identity theft, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's Web sites at www.weprevent.org and www.ncpc.org.

Mystery Shopper Scam

Have you heard that you can get paid to shop, as a mystery shopper or secret shopper? If you have received unsolicited emails or letters or have seen newspaper ads that claim you can earn a living as a secret or mystery shopper by dining at elegant restaurants, shopping at pricey stores, or checking into luxurious hotels, beware!

It is true that some retailers hire marketing research companies to evaluate the quality of service in their stores and these companies often use "mystery shoppers" to get the information anonymously. They assign a mystery shopper to make a particular purchase in a store or restaurant, for example, and then report on the experience. Typically, the shopper is reimbursed, and can keep the product or service.

However, scammers are using newspaper ads and emails to create the impression that they have lucrative mystery shopper jobs to offer with reputable companies. These ads usually promote a website where consumers can "register" to become mystery shoppers. You become the mystery shopper after you pay a fee for information about a certification program, a directory of mystery shopping companies, or a guarantee of a mystery shopping job. The truth is there is no real "shopping certification" and the list of companies that hire mystery shoppers is available for free. Legitimate mystery shopper jobs will never charge you a fee.

Another scam has been reported in our area. A letter invites you to become a paid mystery shopper and the letterhead and check appear to come from a legitimate U.S. company. The listed phone numbers, however, originate in Canada. Here's how it works: the letter instructs you to deposit the check— for, say, \$1,925—into your checking account, wire \$1,465 using a company like Western Union or Money Gram, keep \$250 as pay, take out \$130 for wiring fees, and use \$80 to purchase merchandise. Then you're told to contact the person named in the letter for further instructions. Sounds like an easy way to make money, right? But if you deposit the check,

you'll get a notice from the bank that it bounced. And you're left holding the bag for the \$1,925. Postal Inspectors advise that if you receive this offer, do NOT respond. Instead, report the incident to Postal Inspectors at 1-877-876-2455.

In other versions of the scheme, applicants are requested to provide bank account information to have money directly deposited into their accounts. The fraudster then has acquired access to these victims' accounts and can withdraw money, which makes the applicant a victim of identity theft.

Here are some tips you can use to avoid becoming a victim of employment schemes associated with mystery/secret shopping:

- Do not respond to unsolicited (spam) e-mail.
- Do not click on links contained within an unsolicited e-mail.
- Be cautious of e-mail claiming to contain pictures in attached files, as the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders. Virus scan all attachments, if possible.
- Avoid filling out forms contained in e-mail messages that ask for personal information.
- Always compare the link in the e-mail to the link you are actually directed to and determine if they match and will lead you to a legitimate site.
- There are legitimate mystery/secret shopper programs available. Research the legitimacy on companies hiring mystery shoppers. Legitimate companies will not charge an application fee and will accept applications online.
- No legitimate mystery/secret shopper program will send payment in advance and ask the employee to send a portion of it back.

Individuals who believe they have information pertaining to mystery/secret shopper schemes are encouraged to report the scam to their local law enforcement.

Alarm Company Solicitors

Proven burglar alarm companies don't sell door-to-door or call you to solicit your business. They also don't install anything for random people for free. Call a legitimate alarm company up and ask them sometime if you don't believe me. Okay, maybe they'll have a drawing at their booth at the county fair, but you still have to enter, and they're not going to just show up without calling first.

In the monitored alarm industry, "trunk slammers" refers to salespeople who sell cheap, unreliable alarm systems directly out of their cars, and then slam the trunks shut and drive away. Trunk slammers reach customers by going door-to-door to homes and businesses with promises of cheap or even free security systems. They explain the benefits of owning a security system and quickly get customers to sign a contract for monitoring service. These people may not have appropriate installation experience, insurance coverage, or the ability to enforce warranties.

Licensed alarm dealers will meet with you at your home or office to find the alarm system that best works for you – trunk slammers have little concern for the type of system you want. Their goal is to convince you to sign a long-term contract with a monitoring company. Once you do, they will sell your signed contract to an alarm system company for a nice commission and disappear. Rarely, if ever, will you hear from them again. Sensor stops working? You're out of luck. The monitoring company doubles your rate? Too bad. The victims of these scammers are often stuck with cheap, poorly installed systems and a contract that they can't get out of.

Here are some things to keep in mind to avoid being swindled by a trunk slammer:

Despite what a trunk slammer may tell you, the alarm system isn't necessarily free. The cost of the equipment is usually built into the monthly pricing for monitoring service. Also, be careful about who you provide with your social security number or bank information. Legitimate alarm dealers do require this information for credit

checks but will show you proof that it will be used for its intended purpose. It's unlikely a trunk slammer can offer that same disclosure.

A legitimate alarm system dealer doesn't need to have a lavish office in the center of town, but they should have a phone number where they can be reached and a physical address – not a P.O. Box.

Take your time. Buying an alarm system is a decision that could affect the safety of your loved ones or colleagues, in addition to your property. Don't let a salesman rush you into a decision with lines like "I just need to meet my quota for the month" or "this deal is only good today, the sale ends tomorrow."

"You get what you pay for," is an old adage, but appropriate when discussing trunk slammers. They are going to focus on the most obvious benefit to most consumers – low price. A free or very cheap system will include only a few contacts for doors and windows, an inadequate or outdated alarm panel, and low-quality motion sensors. That may not be enough protection for your home or business.

Alarm system scammers get you to sign monitoring contracts but rarely take the time to explain how monitoring works or even which monitoring company is watching over your home or business. Will you be guaranteed that the monitoring station will contact you if you experience an intrusion or an equipment malfunction?

Check that the salesperson is a certified installer and officially contracted to work for a particular alarm company. Many non-profit organizations require strict testing to certify an alarm dealer and if the salesperson is licensed, you can put a little more faith in their workmanship and commitment to service.

Sheriff's Office Crime Report —Unincorporated Douglas County

This is a summary report of property crimes occurring between September 1-30, 2010 reported to the Douglas County Sheriff's Office.

The information contained in this report is intended to help inform the citizens of Douglas County of the criminal activity occurring in their area. The data referenced in this report only includes incidents where a police report was initiated by a deputy and does not include all calls for service for the Sheriff's Office.

Burglaries

13000 block Hwy 42, Tenmile
300 block Resort Dr, Diamond Lake
100 block S Estella St, Glide
3100 block Cougar Creek Rd, Oakland
100 block Cleveland Hill Rd, Melrose
1300 block Jewel Dr, Roseburg
200 block Emils Way, Green
100 block Berthel Ave, Canyonville

400 block E Third Ave, Riddle
500 block Maple Ct, Canyonville
100 block Klenke Ln, Canyonville
100 block N Main St, Canyonville
11000 block Tiller Trail Hwy Days Creek
Fourth St / Pacific Av, Glendale
Gilbert Av / N Third St, Glendale
300 block Walnut St, Myrtle Creek
300 block Donald Terrace Rd, Myrtle Creek

Thefts from a Motor Vehicle

700 block Main St, Yoncalla
5800 block Hwy 99 N, Oakland
100 block Industrial Dr, Green
200 block Pruner Rd, Riddle
100 block Chief Miwaleta Ln, Canyonville
400 block N Main St, Canyonville
Azalea Glen Rd/Glenvilla Ln, Glendale

Thefts

MP 6 / Weatherly Creek, Scottsburg
31000 block Hwy 38, Scottsburg
138 E / Tokette Rigdon Rd, Diamond Lake
138 E / MP 79, Diamond Lake
50000 block Little River Rd, Glide
23000 block North Umpqua Hwy, Idleyld Park
28000 block North Umpqua Hwy, Idleyld Park
18000 block North Umpqua Hwy, Glide
600 block John Long Rd, Oakland
300 block Edjon Ln, Oakland
400 block Bullock Rd, Oakland
100 block Club St, Winchester
2000 block Buckhorn Rd, Roseburg
3900 block Cleveland Hill Rd, Melrose
3700 block Moorea Dr, Roseburg
200 block Pioneer Way, Winchester
500 block Winchester St, Roseburg
1000 block Douglas Ave, Roseburg
200 block Plat M Rd, Sutherlin
200 block North River Dr, Winchester
200 block Justa Ln, Sutherlin
1200 block Wilbur Rd, Wilbur
100 block Lee Love Ln, Roseburg
100 block Maywood Ct, Green
4100 block Strickland Canyon Rd, Porter Crk
2100 block Castle St, Green
100 block Firth St, Dillard
4100 block Carnes Rd, Green

Criminal Mischief

1000 block Whipple Ct, Yoncalla
200 block Date St, Drain
2800 block Elgarose Rd, Melrose
400 block Sterling Dr, Roseburg
1000 block Douglas Ave, Roseburg
1500 block Plate I Rd, Sutherlin
4300 block Green Valley Rd, Oakland
200 block Valley View Rd, Roseburg
500 block Plat B Rd, Sutherlin
4100 block Stella St, Green
600 block Hoover Hill Rd, Tenmile
100 block Longshot Ln, Green
Hwy 99 S / Brockway Rd, Dillard
100 block Copper Way, Riddle
300 block E Fifth Ave, Riddle
2000 block Cow Creek Rd, Riddle
700 block Penny Ln, Riddle
600 block Corwin St, Myrtle Creek

Drug Offense

2000 block Thorn Prairie Rd, Diamond Lake
18000 block North Umpqua Hwy, Glide
800 block John Long Rd, Oakland
Hwy 99 S / Tipton Rd, Roseburg
900 block Sidney Dr, Winchester
600 block Shadow Ranch Ln, Roseburg
1000 block Lower Garden Valley, Roseburg
300 block Greenhill Dr, Melrose
4400 block Hwy 99 S, Green
4600 block Carnes Rd, Green
400 block Cashew Ln, Green
600 block E Fifth Ave, Riddle
6500 block Cow Creek Rd, Riddle
Gazley Rd, / McGinty Dr, Canyonville
1000 block Hill St, Myrtle Creek
100 block Rosalee Ln, Myrtle Creek

Motor Vehicle Thefts

6100 block Melqua Rd, Melrose
100 block Summerwood St, Green
100 block Addy Ln, Green
100 block Pacific Av, Glendale



Sheriff John Hanlin
1036 SE Douglas Ave.
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Check our website for
more crime stats

www.dcsso.com