



# Identity Theft Worksheet

Developed to assist victim recovery, enhance investigation/prosecution, and inform community.

## File a Complaint with the Federal Trade Commission

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) established the *Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse* under the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998. The database, launched in November 1999, collects identity theft complaints directly from victims.

You may file a complaint with the FTC in one of the following ways:

- Call the toll-free Hotline: 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)
- Complete the FTC online complaint form at:  
[https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/widtpubl\\$.startup?Z\\_ORG\\_CODE=PU03](https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/widtpubl$.startup?Z_ORG_CODE=PU03)
- Write a letter and mail it to:  
Identity Theft Clearinghouse  
Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20580

If you obtain more information after you file the complaint or the perpetrator is apprehended, call the Hotline and update your file.

For more information, visit the FTC website at: <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>

In September 2002, the FTC established the *Military Sentinel Database*. This database collects identity theft complaints directly from members of the armed forces, military civilian employees, and their families. Military-related victims may file a complaint online at <http://www.consumer.gov/military/>.

The information contained in both databases is aggregated and analyzed every year. It is important that your complaint is entered into one of the databases because the annual statistical information helps identify current trends, predict future trends, serve as a guide for public awareness programs, and helps law enforcement and Department of Defense personnel identify patterns in case investigations.

-----

I filed a complaint with the FTC on: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I filed the complaint by:    \_\_\_ Calling the Hotline  
                                     \_\_\_ Writing a letter  
                                     \_\_\_ Completing the online form

*Copyright Board of Trustees at Michigan State University. All rights reserved.*

Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice ♦ Identity Theft Program  
[idtheft@msu.edu](mailto:idtheft@msu.edu) ♦ 517.355.9648 ♦ [www.cj.msu.edu/~outreach/identity](http://www.cj.msu.edu/~outreach/identity)