

---

## Identity Theft

### 332.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Identity theft is a growing trend that frequently involves related crimes in multiple jurisdictions. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the reporting and investigation of such crimes.

### 332.2 REPORTING

- (a) In an effort to maintain uniformity in reporting, officers presented with the crime of identity theft shall initiate a report for victims residing within the jurisdiction of this department (720 ILCS 5/16-35). For incidents of identity theft occurring outside this jurisdiction, officers should observe the following:
  - 1. For any victim not residing within this jurisdiction, the officer may either take a courtesy report to be forwarded to the victim's residence agency or the victim should be encouraged to promptly report the identity theft to the law enforcement agency where he/she resides.
- (b) Officers should include all known incidents of fraudulent activity (e.g., credit card number applied for in victim's name when the victim has never made such an application).
- (c) Officers should also cross-reference all known reports made by the victim (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus and U.S. Postal Service with all known report numbers).
- (d) Following supervisory review and departmental processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate detective for follow up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.

### 332.3 VICTIM ASSISTANCE

- (a) Officers should provide all victims of identity theft with the Attorney General's Identity Theft Resource Guide.
- (b) In a case where another person has been arrested, cited or charged in the victim's name, where a criminal complaint was filed against a perpetrator in the victim's name or where the victim's name has been mistakenly associated with a criminal conviction, the reporting officer should inform the victim of identity theft of his/her right to obtain an expedited judicial determination of factual innocence (720 ILCS 5/16-35(b)).