

Building The Better Bank



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Identity Theft/Elder Abuse
Presentation
New York Hospital Queens
March 18, 2010



- **Identity Theft occurs when someone obtains personal information, such as Social Security Number, Bank accounts or Credit Card Number, in order to commit fraud using your name.**
- **Identity Theft impacts millions of Americans each year.**
- **Thieves cloak their crimes by using the victim's name and personal identification information.**
- **Fraudulent activity may take months to discover.**
- **Identity Theft victims suffer financial loss, credit damage, frustration and inconvenience.**



Everyone is a potential target!!!

- Victims are among all social and financial groups.
- All geographic areas: urban, suburban and rural.
- All professions: doctors, lawyers, law enforcement, bankers, etc.
- College Students and faculty
- Senior citizens

What is done with the information stolen?



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The victims financial information is attacked.

- Funds may be withdrawn from their bank accounts.
- Credit card accounts could be used to make unauthorized purchases.
- New accounts are opened in the victims name to facilitate crimes.
- New credit cards are obtained to make purchases.
- Loans are obtained in victim's name; personal, auto, and even student loans.
- Rent and lease property in victim's name
- Apply for benefits, such as Social Security and Veterans Benefits.
- Obtain services such as cable, telephone and electric.
- Thieves sell and share their information with other thieves.

How is the victim's information obtained?



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- Stealing your purse or wallet
- Stealing your mail
- Dumpster Diving
- Purchasing your information from other thieves
- Social Engineering. Pretending to be you and pretext calling.
- Surfing the internet and obtaining computerized records.
- From dishonest employees of reputable firms who have access to your information.

How can I protect myself?

- Review bank and credit card statements for accuracy soon after receiving them.
- File important and sensitive documents in a secure location.
- Shred sensitive documents if you no longer need them.
- Memorize your password and personal identification number instead of writing them down.
- Associate and do business only with companies you know and trust.
- Request a copy of your credit report at least once a year to make sure there is no unauthorized activity.

How can I protect myself?

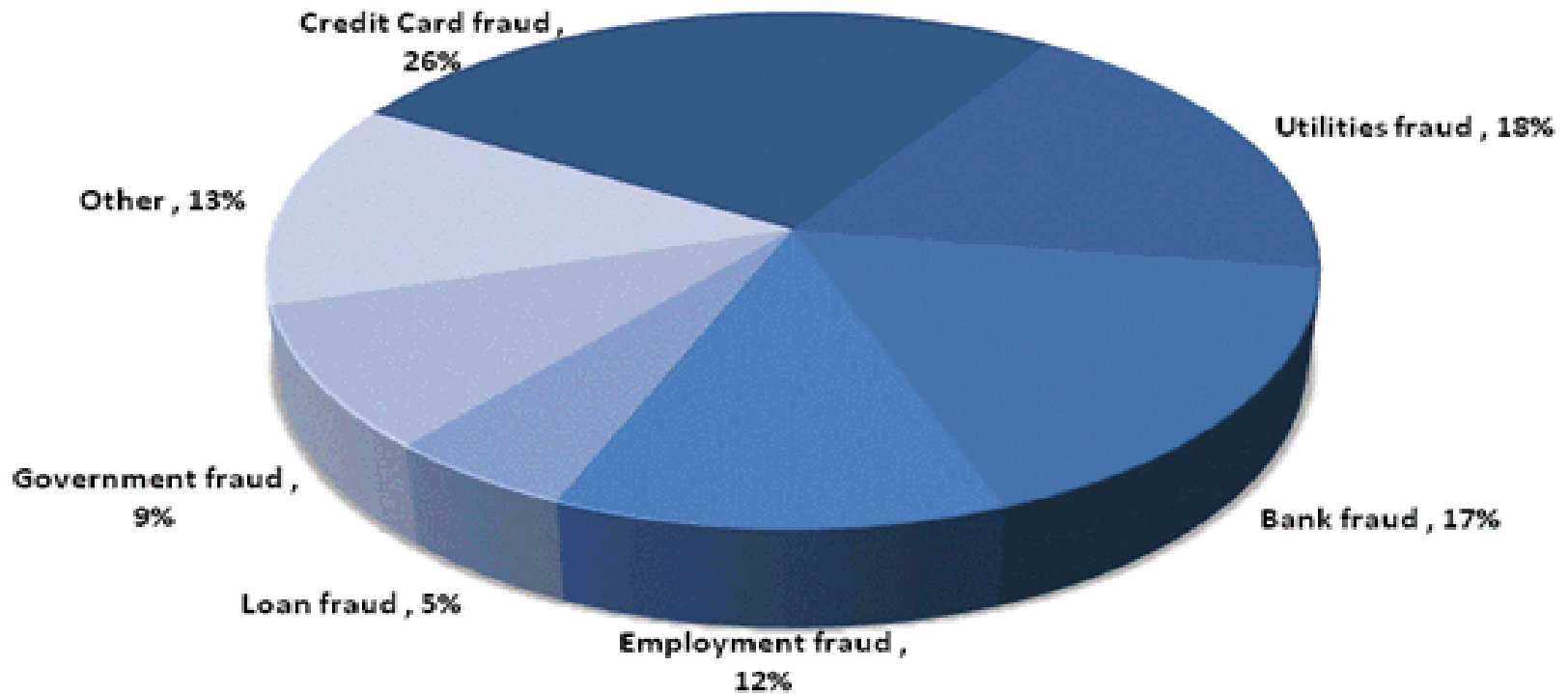


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- Always protect your purse and wallet
- Never give out your ATM PIN number, share your ATM/Debit card or write it on the back of the card.
- Don't leave personal information lying out in the open.
- Don't give out personal information unless you initiated the contact and verify the identity of the person requesting the information.
- Don't respond to email or websites asking for personal information of any kind.

2009 Types of Identity Theft From the Federal Trade Commission



If my identity has been stolen, what do I do?



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Take Action, protect yourself.

- **Notify your financial institution.**
- **Close accounts you believe were tampered with.**
- **Contact one of the three major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit report. This will alert all three bureaus.**
- **Request a copy of your credit report and review for accuracy.**
- **File a police report**
- **Report unauthorized charges and accounts immediately to credit issuers and bureaus by phone and in writing.**
- **Keep copies of all correspondence in the event you need to submit information to creditors.**



- Equifax
- Experian
- TransUnion

- **Attorney General: Andrew Cuomo (D)**
Dept. of Law - The Capitol, 2nd fl., Albany, NY 12224
Phone: (518) 474-7330
Website: www.oag.state.ny.us

- **NYS Consumer Protection Board**
5 Empire State Plaza, Suite 2101, Albany, NY 12223
Phone: (800) 697-1220
Website: www.nysconsumer.gov

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

