



The Investigator Newsletter

Avoiding Identity Theft Online



About Us

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensures investigations are conducted promptly with leading-edge techniques.

With over 40 years of combined experience, BCSI Investigations Inc.

Identity theft happens when someone steals your personal information, like your name, password, credit card details, or government ID numbers, to commit fraud. In the digital age, this can happen silently through data breaches, phishing scams, fake websites, or insecure apps.

How identity theft starts online

Cybercriminals often trick people into clicking fake links that look like real banks, delivery services, or shopping sites. Once you enter your information, it is captured and misused. Public Wi-Fi networks and weak passwords also make it easier for attackers to intercept data or access accounts.

How to avoid identity theft

Start by using **strong, unique passwords** for every account. A password manager can help you create and store them securely so you don't reuse the same one everywhere.

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Enable **two-factor authentication** wherever possible. This ensures that even if someone steals your password, they still can't log in without a second verification step.

Be cautious with emails and messages asking for urgent action. Do not click unknown links—go directly to the official website instead of using embedded links.

Limit how much personal information you share on social media. Details like your birthdate, location, or workplace can be used to guess security questions.

Regularly **monitor your bank statements** and credit reports for suspicious activity. Early detection can prevent bigger damage.

Final tip

Treat your personal data like cash: only share it when absolutely necessary and only with trusted sources. In the online world, careful habits are the best protection against identity theft.

To stay up to date with scams, listen to [Scams 360](#) wherever you get your podcasts.

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