

**If suspect that your Personal Information has been stolen
here are some steps to help you get protected**

Visit: <https://www.equifaxsecurity2017.com/> to see if your information has been put at risk

Check your credit reports—FOR FREE — by visiting annualcreditreport.com accounts or activity that you don't recognize could indicate identity theft

Visit IdentityTheft.gov to find out what to do

Place a **credit freeze** on your files this makes it harder for someone to open a new account in your name

- *Keep in mind that a credit freeze won't prevent a thief from making charges to your existing accounts*

Place a **fraud alert** on your file, if you decide against a credit freeze consider

- *A fraud alert warns creditors that you may be an identity theft victim and that they should verify anyone seeking credit in your name really is you—you place this with a credit bureau agency*

Monitor your existing credit card and bank accounts closely for charges you don't recognize

File your taxes as soon as you have the tax information before a scammer can. Tax identity theft happens when someone uses your Social Security number to get a tax refund or a job

- *Respond right away to letters from the IRS*

The Best Protection Is to Be Aware and Responsible