Identity Theft

What is identity theft?
• The illegal use of another person’s means of identification
• The act of impersonating someone by using their:
  - name
  - date of birth
  - Social Security number
  - address
  - bank account information

Protect Your Self

Risk: Your wallet is lost or stolen.
Solution: file a police report immediately and call your credit card companies to report the loss.

Risk: trash containing personal information is stolen.
Solution: shred your documents before throwing them out.

Risk: your mail is stolen.
Solution: never leave mail that contains your personal information for pick-up in a non-secure box and always collect new mail properly.

Risk: friends, family, relatives, or employees with access to privileged information commit identity fraud.
Solution: carefully select with whom you share personal information.

Risk: your personal data is stolen online.
Solution: only share personal information over the internet through secure channels.

Risk: documents in your home or workplace are stolen.
Solution: always store personal documents in a safe and secure area.

Risk: imposters pretend to have a valid reason to request your information.
Solution: always verify the identity of anyone who requests your personal information.

How can I prevent it?
• Report lost or stolen credit cards immediately
• Cancel all inactive credit card accounts
• Notify your financial institution if you have not received new or replacement credit cards in a timely manner
• Closely monitor the expiration dates on your credit cards
• Check monthly bills for unauthorized charges

Protecting your personal information
• Request electronic versions of bills, statements and checks, and sign up for direct deposit
• Limit the amount of personal information you carry in your wallet or purse
• Never disclose your Social Security number, credit card number or any bank account details over the phone
• Memorize your passwords and PINs; change them frequently
• Do not write PIN numbers or passwords down on paper or store them in your wallet/purse
• Delete all personal information from the hard drive of your computer before throwing it out
• Take receipts from ATMs, bank counters or unattended gasoline pumps with you
• Be aware of your surroundings when entering your PIN at an ATM

Online Resources

UNT Police Department
http://www.unt.edu/police/

Denton Police Department

Texas Department of Public Safety
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/

Identity Theft Resources Center
http://wwwidtheftcenter.org/

Federal Trade Commission
https://www.ftc.gov/

Who to call for help

UNT Dean of Students Office
940/565.2648

UNT Counseling Center
940/565.2741

UNT Police Department
940/565.3000

Denton Police Department
940/349.8181