

Identity Theft

328.1 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.

328.2 REPORTING

- (a) To maintain uniformity in reporting, deputies shall initiate a report for victims residing within the jurisdiction of this agency when the crime occurred. For incidents of identity theft occurring outside this jurisdiction, deputies should observe the following (Wis. Stat. § 943.201(4)):
 - 1. For any victim not residing within this jurisdiction, the deputy may either take a courtesy report to be forwarded to the victim's residence agency or the victim shall be informed which law enforcement agency may have jurisdiction. The victim should be encouraged to promptly report the identity theft to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- (b) While the crime of identity theft should be reported to the law enforcement agency where the victim resides, deputies of this agency should investigate and report crimes occurring within this jurisdiction that have resulted from the original identity theft (e.g., the identity theft occurred elsewhere, but the fraud, usage of services or receipt of goods were acquired or occurred in this jurisdiction).
- (c) Deputies 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).
- (d) Deputies should also cross-reference all known reports made by the victim (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus, U.S. Postal Service and Department of Motor Vehicles) with all known report numbers.
- (e) Following supervisory review and Agency processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate investigator for follow-up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.

328.3 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The victim should be advised to place a security freeze on his/her consumer report, as allowed by law.

The victim may file an identity theft complaint with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, Office of Privacy Protection (OPP) at 800-422-7128, www.privacy.wi.gov , or e-mail at wisconsinprivacy@dacp.state.wi.us .

328.4 INFORMATION

The victim should be encouraged to contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which is responsible for receiving and processing complaints under the Identity Theft and Assumption

Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

Policy Manual

Identity Theft

Deterrence Act. The victim can contact the FTC online at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menus/consumer/data/idt.shtm> or by telephone at 877-ID Theft (877-438-4338). Additional information may be found at the U.S. Department of Justice website, <http://www.usdoj.gov>, or the FBI at <http://www.fbi.gov/milwaukee> .