
Identity Theft

418.1 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.

418.2 REPORTING

- (a) In an effort to maintain uniformity in reporting, officers presented with the crime of identity theft shall initiate a report for victims residing within the jurisdiction of this department (720 ILCS 5/16-35). For incidents of identity theft occurring outside this jurisdiction, officers should observe the following:
 - 1. For any victim not residing within this jurisdiction, the officer may either take a courtesy report to be forwarded to the victim's residence agency or the victim should be encouraged to promptly report the identity theft to the law enforcement agency where he/she resides.
- (b) Officers 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).
- (c) Officers should also cross-reference all known reports made by the victim (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus and U.S. Postal Service with all known report numbers).
- (d) Following supervisory review and departmental processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate detective for follow up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.

418.3 VICTIM ASSISTANCE

- (a) Officers should provide all victims of identity theft with the Attorney General's Identity Theft Resource Guide.
- (b) In a case where another person has been arrested, cited or charged in the victim's name, where a criminal complaint was filed against a perpetrator in the victim's name or where the victim's name has been mistakenly associated with a criminal conviction, the reporting officer should inform the victim of identity theft of his/her right to obtain an expedited judicial determination of factual innocence (720 ILCS 5/16-35(b)).