

# ***Combating Fraud and Identity Theft***

## **Must-Do List**

- Call the NYS Department of Labor or go online (click [THIS LINK](#)) to file a fraud claim.
- Check with [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov) which will provide you with a comprehensive list of what to do in the case of identity theft.
- Contact credit card companies and banks and let them know what has happened to you.
- Contact the police and file a report. Many do this for identity theft but not for reports of fraud. Make sure you do.
- Be sure to get information from the District on the date of the crime if in relation to an unemployment fraud claim. The police will need this & you should know how far back the claim has happened, if not the same date as your notification.
- Don't activate any credit cards or lines of credit you didn't apply for. Law enforcement indicates that this is another way credit can be activated. When you activate the card or the account and the thief gets notified and begins to use it.
- Find out how your data is housed by your employer. Another piece of advice from the police that I received. You are protected by [The New York SHIELD Act](#) and have personal data that your employer is obliged under this law to protect.
- Ask questions. Want to know how your data is stored and protected? Ask. Want to know what's in your personnel file? Ask to see it and make copies. Use your voice!
- If you are entering your SS# or Driver's License ID # in documents for purchases, ask the company where they store these and how these paper or digital documents are destroyed when not needed any longer.

## **Helpful Links**

- [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.identitytheft.gov) - Federal Trade Commission - the federal government's one-stop resource for **identity theft & fraud** victims.
- [NYS DOL Fraud Reporting](#) - place to report unemployment claim fraud after being notified by NYS or Lockport City School District.
- NYS DOL Fraud Reporting Phone Number... 1-888-598-2077
- [Freezing Your Credit](#) - Federal Trade Commission - what to do to make sure your identity is verified to prevent fraudulent credit applications.
- Contact [AFT Member Benefits](#) - AFT Member Benefits Identity Security Tools