



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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## Senator Lanza Issues Special Report to Consumers: PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT

[ANDREW J LANZA](#) February 13, 2013

Over the last decade, identity theft has been causing ever-increasing problems for many people across the United States. Identity theft occurs when someone obtains personal information about you—such as your Social Security number, credit card, or bank account numbers—and uses it to obtain credit cards, clear out your checking account, or otherwise illegally conduct business in your name. While you may not be able to completely protect yourself against identity theft, there are ways to minimize your risk. Learn how identity thieves operate, and make a conscious effort to safeguard your personal information. Attached are some tips that may help you understand identity theft and protect yourself against it.