



September 2017

Equifax Data Breach: What Seniors Need to Know

In the recent cyber-attack on Equifax, one of the three consumer credit reporting agencies, criminals stole more than 143 million credit records which included social security numbers, addresses, and other personal information. With nearly half the population of the U.S. currently at risk for future financial crimes due to the breach, many are left wondering what, if anything, can they do to protect their personal information? Monitoring your credit report closely and disputing errors as soon as possible is essential to minimizing the impact of financial crimes. Consumers can also utilize a "credit freeze", which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. A credit freeze must be placed with each of the three credit reporting bureaus and does not prevent you from viewing your credit report. You may also consider enrolling in credit monitoring services, however, some do require a fee.

With more personal information being stored online, this certainly will not be the last breach, and consumers should use this as an opportunity to develop habits of staying vigilant in monitoring their financial information.

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AG Brnovich Hosts Shred-a-Thon



**Task Force
Against
Senior
Abuse**

Press Release: AG Brnovich Launces Investigation into Equifax Data Breach

For more information on elder abuse, please call the helpline:
(602) 542-2124 or (844) 894-4735 (toll free)

Attorney General Mark Brnovich



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AG Brnovich Hosts West Valley Shred-A-Thon

In an effort to combat identity theft crimes targeted toward seniors, Attorney General Mark Brnovich hosted a free shred-a-thon for residents in the Sun City and Sun CityWest communities. In partnership with Grandview Terrace and ASDD Document Destruction, the event drew a crowd of over 400 and more than 19,000 pounds of personal documents were destroyed and recycled. The amount of recycled paper from this event alone saved roughly 170 trees, and 30 cubic yards of landfill space.

For information on upcoming shred-a-thons, please visit our [website](#).

Cont. Equifax Data Breach: What Seniors Need to Know



In the aftermath of this hack, seniors may experience an increase in phone and imposter scams by individuals posing as Equifax representatives. Below are steps we can all take to reduce our risk of financial crimes related to the data breach.

If you receive a call from "Equifax" asking you to verify your account information, hang up and don't give out any personal information. Equifax will not contact you via phone to verify information.

Place a "freeze" on your credit with all three credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Transunion and Experian. This service requires a small fee, however, Equifax is offering free credit freezes to the public until November 21, 2017.

Monitor your credit reports closely, and consider utilizing credit monitoring services.

If you have been scammed or have received a scam call related to the Equifax breach, report it to the Arizona Attorney General's Office and the Federal Trade Commission.

TASA Hotline: (602) 542-2124 or (844) 894-4735

Contact:

Phoenix: (602) 542-5025

Toll Free: (800) 352-8431

Attorney General Mark Brnovich



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