

# Identity Theft Tips

*As we quickly approach the holiday season, the Richland County Sheriff's Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, would like to remind citizens of how important their personal safety is, and how not to fall victim to identity theft. It is imperative that citizens help us take the opportunity away from the criminals. Below are a few suggestions in hopes to make you and your family safer and happier this holiday season:*



**Richland County Sheriff's Department**  
**Leon Lott**  
Sheriff



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**David A. Thomas**  
Special Agent in Charge

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- If you are an online shopper make sure that you are giving your personal information on a secured site.
  - Do not give personal information to someone calling you asking for things such as SS#, bank account/routing number.
  - Check your financial information regularly.
  - Obtain a credit report to review regularly to determine deficiencies.
  - Report stolen credit cards immediately.
  - Keep your Personal Identification Number (PIN) for credit/debit cards in your memory and do not share them with anyone.
  - Shred un-needed important documents like Mail solicitations or bills.
  - Make a police report for your records

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Please visit the Richland County Sheriff's Department website for other tips for crime prevention at [www.rcsd.net](http://www.rcsd.net) or for Free crime prevention training call 803-576-3000. To file an internet crime complaint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, visit the IC3 website at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).