Resources for Filing a Police Report for Identity Theft

Relevant Texas Laws

The state law in Texas defining identity theft has changed, effective September 1, 2019. This change is intended to support victims of financial abuse when debts have been incurred in their name by an abuser and they have received no benefit for those debts.

<u>Section 32.51(b)(1)</u> of the Texas Penal Code states the updated definition of identity theft: [https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.32.htm#32.51]

A person commits an offense if the person, with the intent to harm or defraud another, obtains, possesses, transfers, or uses an item of: identifying information of another person *without the other person's consent or effective consent.*

"Effective consent" is defined in <u>Section 1.07(a)(19)(A)</u> of the Texas Penal Code: [https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/PE/htm/PE.1.htm]

"Effective consent" includes consent by a person legally authorized to act for the owner. *Consent is not effective if induced by force, threat, or fraud.*

<u>Article 2.29</u> of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure states that a police report must be made when someone alleges that identity theft has occurred. It also states that the victim will get a copy of the report if the victim asks for it: [https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/CR/htm/CR.2.htm]

REPORT REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH FRAUDULENT USE OR POSSESSION OF IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

(a) A peace officer to whom an alleged violation of Section 32.51, Penal Code, is reported shall make a written report to the law enforcement agency that employs the peace officer that includes the following information:

- (1) the name of the victim;
- (2) the name of the suspect, if known;
- (3) the type of identifying information obtained, possessed, transferred, or used in violation of Section <u>32.51</u>, Penal Code; and
- (4) the results of any investigation.

(b) On the victim's request, the law enforcement agency shall provide the report created under Subsection (a) to the victim. In providing the report, the law enforcement agency shall redact any otherwise confidential information that is included in the report, other than the information described by Subsection (a).

Law Enforcement Contact Information

Sherriff's Offices of the 10 Largest Counties in Texas

County	Address, Phone Number, and Web Address of County Sheriff's Office	Notes on Filing an Identity Theft Police Report
Harris	1200 Baker Street Houston, TX 77002	This is the appropriate law enforcement agency if you live in Harris County. You can file the police report either over the phone or in person,
	(713) 221-6000	depending on your situation and which you prefer.
	https://www.harriscountyso.org/	
Dallas	Call for location.	You can call and they will send out a deputy so that you can make your report in person. You can
	(214) 749-8641 https://www.dallascounty.org/depart	get a copy of your identity theft report after making it.
	ment/sheriff/sheriff_index.php	
Tarrant	200 Taylor Street - 7th Floor	This is the correct law enforcement agency to
	Fort Worth, TX 76196	contact if you live in an unincorporated area in Tarrant County. Otherwise, call your city's police
	817-884-1213	department.
	https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/sh	To file an identity theft report, first make a report
	<u>eriff.html</u>	by phone. An officer will call you back or come out to you to complete the report and investigate.
Bexar	200 N Comal St. San Antonio, TX 78207	You can file the police report entirely over the phone. It is optional to have a deputy come out
		and to file the report with the deputy. When you
	210-335-6000 x1	have filed the report you will get a case number that you can provide to the records department.
	<u>https://www.bexar.org/600/Sheriffs-</u> <u>Office</u>	After about a week, the records department can give you a copy of the police report.
		This is the correct law enforcement agency for people who live in Bexar County but outside of
		San Antonio city limits.
Travis	5555 Airport Blvd	Call to see if this is the appropriate agency, or if
	Austin, TX 78751	you should file with Austin Police Department. If you live in the jurisdiction for Travis County
	(512) 974-0845, Option 3	Sheriff's Office, you can file over the phone or by having a deputy come to you.
	https://www.tcsheriff.org/	
Collin	300 Community Ave	You can file a police report by either going in to
	McKinney, TX 75071	the physical office or by calling, and an officer will go out and take your police report in person. You
	972-547-5100	can get a copy of the police report after it has been filed.
	https://www.collincountytx.gov/sheriff/ Pages/default.aspx	

County	Address, Phone Number, and Web	Notes on Filing an Identity Theft Police Report
county	Address of County Sheriff's Office	
Hidalgo	711 El Cibolo Rd	To file an identity theft report, you can call and
-	Edinburg, TX 78541	they will send a deputy to you to make the report
		in person. You will then be able to get a copy of
	(956) 383-8114	your report.
	https://www.hidalgocounty.us/209/Sh	
	eriff	
Denton	127 N Woodrow Ln	You can call and make an identity theft report over
	Denton, TX 76205	the phone. You can then contact the records division andget a copy of your identity theft report.
	(940) 349-1600 x9	
	https://www.dentoncounty.gov/70	
	<u>7/Sheriff</u>	
El Paso	3850 Justice	You can't file a police report over the phone. You
	El Paso, TX 79938	should call and they will send out a deputy so that
	045 546 2220	you can make your report in person. You can then
	915-546-2280	get a copy of the report after you have filed it.
	http://www.epcounty.com/sheriff/	
Fort	1840 Richmond Pkwy	You can call and they will send out a deputy to
Bend	Richmond, TX 77469	help you make the identity theft report in person.
	201 244 4005	You can't file the report over the phone. After you
	281-341-4665	have filed the report, you will be able to get a copy of the report.
	https://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/	
	government/departments/sheriff-	
	s-office/file-a-report/online-	
	offense-report-non-emergency	

Police Departments of the 10 Largest Cities in Texas

City	Address, Phone Number, and Web Address of City Police Department	Notes on Filing an Identity Theft Police Report
Houston	1200 Travis Street Houston, TX 77002 (713) 884-3131	You can call and you might be able to file your police report over the phone. However, if it is too busy, you might have to call back the following day or you might have to go to any Houston Police Department station to file the report.
	https://www.houstontx.gov/police/divisions/cyber & financial crimes/fcu2. htm#credit	After you file the report, you will get an incident report number. You can contact the records division and they will send you a copy of the police report.
San Antonio	315 S Santa Rosa Ave San Antonio, TX 78207	You would file a police report with this law enforcement agency if you live in the city limits of San Antonio. You can file either over the phone or you can have a police officer come to you so you can file it in
	210-207-7273 https://www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD	person. If the totally amount of money in dispute is over \$20,000, you will need to file the police report in person. You can get a copy of the police report after 7-10 business days.
Dallas	1400 S. Lamar St. Dallas, Texas 75215 214-671-3543	You can call the financial crimes number, listed in the column to the left. They will be able to advise you on your next steps. You can also go into any Dallas Police Department substation and speak with an officer and they will be able to tell you where to file the police report in person.
	https://dallaspolice.net/reports/Pages /coplogic.aspx	
Austin	715 East 8th St. Austin, TX 78701	You can file a police report online at <u>http://www.austintexas.gov/page/offenses</u> .
	512-974-2000 (3-1-1) https://www.austintexas.gov/services /file-police-report	You can also call the non-emergency 311 number and they'll put in the request with Austin Police Department. The police department will contact you with the directions for completing the filing of the police report. They will also be able to give you a report number that you can use to get a copy of the police report.
Fort Worth	505 W. Felix Fort Worth, TX 76115 817-392-4222	You can file a police report over the phone. The department might need to send someone out if supporting documents are needed.
	https://police.fortworthtexas.gov/	You can get a copy of your identity theft report by going through the records division.

City	Address, Phone Number, and Web	Notes on Filing an Identity Theft Police Report
El Paso	Address of City Police Department 911 N. Raynor El Paso, TX 79903 (915) 832-4436	You can call during business hours and file the identity theft police report over the phone. If you file over the phone, you can get a copy after 2 business days at any police station.
	https://www.elpasotexas.gov/police- department/online-crime-reporting- form/	You can also file online, regardless of whether or not you know who has stolen your identity. If you file online, you can then pick up your police report in 5 days at any police station.
Arlington	620 W Division St Arlington, TX 76011 817-274-4444 <u>https://www.arlingtontx.gov/city_hall/dep_artments/police</u>	If you are in Arlington, call 817-274-4444 to make a police report for identity theft over the phone.
Corpus Christi	321 John Sartain St Corpus Christi, TX 78401 (361) 886-2600 <u>https://www.cctexas.com/services/pu</u> <u>blic-safety/make-police-report/report-phone</u>	You can call and make the police report over the phone. If it is a complicated case, they might ask you to be in person to make the police report. You will get a case number. After a few days, you can call back and make arrangements to get a copy of the police report.
Plano	909 14th St Plano, TX 75074 (972) 424-5678 x3 <u>https://www.plano.gov/1548/Online-</u> <u>Police-Reporting</u>	You can file a police report for identity theft over the phone or online, but only if there is no known suspect. If there is a known suspect, you might be able to make the police report over the phone, but you will likely need to come into station or make the report with an officer who comes to you. You can call them back after your police report has been filed to get a copy of the report.
Laredo	4712 Maher Ave Laredo, TX 78041 (956) 795-2800 <u>https://www.cityoflaredo.com/depart</u> <u>ments/police-department</u>	You can file an identity theft police report by coming into the station (see address to the left) and filing the report in person. You can get a copy of the report after it is filed.