

## IDENTITY THEFT AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

Questions:	Answers:
1. I believe that someone else is using my Social Security Number. What should I do?	Sometimes more than one person might use the same Social Security number (SSN), either on purpose or by accident. If you suspect that someone else is using your SSN for work or some other purpose, or you have received notice from the Internal Revenue Service of unreported taxable income that is not yours, you should report the problem to the Social Security Administration by calling 1-800-772-1213. Social Security representatives will ensure that your Social Security records are correct.
2. How do I obtain an Earnings and Benefit Statement?	Check your earnings record by calling the Social Security Administration 800 number, which is 1-800-772-1213 for a Form SSA-7004, Request for Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement. The Statement will show the earnings reported to your Social Security number each year since 1951. If the information on your earnings record is incorrect, Social Security will help you correct it. You may also download the form or make your request online.
3. What other helpful publications are available on the Social Security Administration's website?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You may make an online request on our website at: <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/statement/">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/statement/</a></li> <li>• You may download Form SSA-7004 from our website at: <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ssa-7004.html">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ssa-7004.html</a></li> <li>• SSA Publication No. 05-10064, "When Someone Misuses Your Social Security Number" at: <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10064.html">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10064.html</a>.</li> <li>• SSA Publication No. 05-10002, "Social Security: Your Number and Card" at: <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10002.html">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10002.html</a>.</li> <li>• The Federal Trade Commission also makes available on its website the publication: "Identity Theft" When Bad Things Happens to Your Good Name" at: <a href="http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/credit/idtheft.htm">http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/credit/idtheft.htm</a></li> <li>• Preventing Identity Theft at: <a href="http://www.aarp.org/learntech/personal_finance/identity_theft_1.html">http://www.aarp.org/learntech/personal_finance/identity_theft_1.html</a></li> </ul>
4. What should I do if I think I might be a victim of identity theft?	If your SSN has been used to run up bills or obtain credit, Social Security cannot assign an individual a new (different) SSN. However, you can take the following measures on how to "Prevent Identity Theft" at: <a href="http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10064.html">http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10064.html</a>
5. How can I get a different Social Security number assigned to me?	Generally, an individual is assigned only one Social Security number (SSN), which is used to record the individual's earnings for future benefit purposes and to keep track of benefits, paid under that number. However, under certain circumstances, SSA may assign an individual a new (different) SSN. When a new number is assigned, the original number is not voided or deleted. For integrity reasons, all the numbers assigned to the same individual are cross-referenced.
6. When will SSA assign new Social Security numbers?	SSA can assign new SSNs in the following situations, provided all of the documentation requirements are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sequential SSNs are assigned to members of the same family</li> <li>• Certain scrambled earnings situations</li> <li>• Certain wrong number cases</li> <li>• Religious or cultural objection to certain numbers/ digits in the SSN</li> <li>• Misuse by a third party of the number holder's SSN and the number holder has been disadvantaged by that particular misuse</li> <li>• Harassment, abuse or life endangering situations (including domestic violence)</li> </ul>

<b>Questions:</b>	<b>Answers:</b>
7. How do I apply for a new (different) SSN?	<p>To apply for a new (different) SSN, you need to complete Form SS-5 (Application for a Social Security Card), which is available for download at <a href="http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.html">http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.html</a>. Or you can obtain Form SS-5 by calling 1-800-772-1213 or visiting your local Social Security office. These services are free.</p> <p>You need to submit evidence of age, identity, and U.S. citizenship or lawful alien status. Form SS-5 explains what documents will satisfy these requirements. You also need to submit evidence to support your need for a new number.</p> <p>If you are age 12 or over, you must submit your request for a new SSN in person at your local Social Security office.</p>