

Step by Step: DEALING WITH DEBT THAT ISN'T YOURS



To stop contact and collection action you will need to contact the debt collector, the business that opened the fraudulent account and the credit reporting agencies.

HOW TO DISPUTE A DEBT WITH A DEBT COLLECTOR		
STEP BY STEP:	NOTES:	
Contact the financial institution.	Tell the business/debt collector you are a victim of identity theft and the debt's not yours.	
	Ask for information about the transaction(s) that creates the debt.	
	Send copies of your police report, Identity Theft Report or other documents that detail the identity theft.	
	Send it certified mail, return receipt requested.	
	The collector must suspend collection efforts until it sends you written verification of the debt. If the collector works for another company, it must tell the other company you are an identity theft victim.	
Contact the three nationwide credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian and TransUnion.	Take steps to have fraudulent information removed or blocked from your credit report and to stop a business from selling or transferring a debt for collection.	
	Specific steps for blocking and disputing information on your credit report can be found on page 4 of your Toolkit.	
ADDITIONAL STEPS		
STEP BY STEP:	NOTES:	
Request your credit reports.	Find additional information on page 1 of your toolkit.	
Place a fraud alert.	Find additional information on page 2 of your toolkit.	
Consider a security freeze.	Find additional information on page 1 of your toolkit.	
Update your files.	Record the dates you made calls or sent letters. Keep copies of letters in your files.	

NOTES:

Remember to get written confirmation of resolutions made by phone.

For more information on filing a complaint or reporting a scam, visit www.consumer.sc.gov and "How Do I..."



