

## FTC Tax ID Theft Twitter Chat

On January 16, 2014, FTC staff co-hosted a Twitter Chat with the Identity Theft Resources Center on tax identity theft as part of the agency's first [Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week](#). The hashtag for the event was #IDTheftChat, and we tweeted from our @FTC account.

**Note:** Tweets in their original order (they're reversed here for ease of reading), and without handles redacted, remain publicly available on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/FTC](http://www.twitter.com/FTC).

### Tweets

Our #TaxIDTheft chat is starting in a few minutes w/ @ITRCSD! We hope you'll join us. Tweet your questions using #IDTheftChat.

Hi all, I'm Steve Toporoff from the FTC's Division of Privacy & Identity Protection. I'm looking forward to co-hosting with @ITRCSD.

@bbb\_us @ITRCSD I'm glad to have you with us! #IDTheftChat

@mafassociates Hi- please remember to use the hashtag! #IDTheftChat

RT @mafassociates @FTC: there's a IRS form to report tax preparer of fraudulent activity; do you know the form # ? #IDTheftChat

@mafassociates To report a tax preparer, please see: <http://go.usa.gov/ZMkK>. #IDTheftChat  
View conversation

@taxtweet For consumers who were affected by the recent Target hack, please see our blog post: <http://go.usa.gov/ZMkR> #IDTheftChat

@scres1988 IRS will contact you when you file if there's problem. If u don't get your refund in reasonable time, contact them. #IDTheftChat

@HUDgov Glad to have your here! #IDTheftChat

RT @ITRCSD: Next up is Q3: What should you do if you're a victim of tax ID theft? #TaxIDTheft #IDTheftChat

Call the IRS' Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 800-908-4490. File IRS Form 14039 to report it: <http://go.usa.gov/ZM9Q>. #IDTheftChat

A3 If you're victim of #taxidtheft, could become victim of other #idtheft. Placing fraud alert or freeze on accts is good idea. #IDTheftChat

For more information on general #idtheft tips, see: <http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft> #IDTheftChat

@IdentityG Identity thieves may also try to claim smaller amounts of money so as to not raise suspicion. #IDTheftChat

RT @ITRCSD: Time for Q4: What are some consequences you may suffer from tax identity theft? #TaxIDTheft #IDTheftChat

A4 You may be victim of other #idtheft. May lose some benefits if IRS thinks you have more income than u report. Delayed refund....

RT @CentralTexasBBB we recommend getting 1 credit report from each CRA every 3-4 months at <http://www.annualcreditreport.com> #IDTheftChat

@scres1988 Low income & those who don't file may b specifically targeted. If they have SSN, be on lookout for other signs. #IDTheftChat

@AmOneMoney Generally speaking, #idtheft is number 1 complaint to FTC - and #taxidtheft complaints is top in this area. #IDTheftChat

RT @ITRCSD: Now for Q5: How can you protect yourself from becoming a victim of tax id theft? #IDTheftChat #TaxIDTheft

A5 File tax returns as early as possible. Never give our your Social Security number unless you legally must. 1/2 #IDTheftChat

A5 Mail directly from post office. Electronically, use secure network, not public WiFi. Select tax preparers carefully. 2/2 #IDTheftChat

RT @identity\_pro: Watch out for emails, websites, tweets, phone & fax messages that impersonate the IRS, especially during tax season #IDTheftChat

RT @ITRCSD: Last one up! Q6: How long should you keep your tax records & how should you properly destroy them? #IDTheftChat #TaxIDTheft

A6 Keep records for at least 7 years. Shred older ones, copies, calculations sheets, & other financial info you no longer need. #IDTheftChat

@SpringfieldLCP I know that IRS is considering many options, several of which are in pilots.

@TimPawlenty Thanks for helping share our resources today! #IDTheftChat

@IdentityG Thanks for joining us!

Find all the FTC's resources on #TaxIDTheft including tips, powerpoint, & more to help spread word at <http://www.ftc.gov/taxidtheft>. #IDTheftChat

Please consider sharing all your new #TaxIDTheft knowledge w/your friends & family today! Need to bring awareness to this fraud. #IDTheftChat

@LifeLock We have a blog post for businesses too! #TaxIDTheft: What your business needs to know: <http://go.usa.gov/ZMpW> #IDTheftChat

Thanks everyone for joining us today! And big thanks to @ITRCSD for co-hosting with us. :) #IDTheftChat