



Criminal Identity Theft Roadmap

Steps to take if you are a victim of criminal identity theft in Minnesota

1. **Questioned Identity Process:** Go to Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) [website](#) and get information about the questioned identity process which includes filling out a [form](#), having fingerprints taken and undergoing a background check. If it shows that an imposter has used the victim's name, the victim will ultimately get a letter from the BCA that shows the name was used as an alias. The victim should make copies of the letter and carry a copy at all times.
2. **Correct erroneous arrest data:** The questioned identity process with the BCA will only correct conviction data. To correct erroneous *arrest* data, the victim must ask each arresting law enforcement agency to correct the data. Please note: The arrest data will still reflect the use of the victim's name as an alias.
3. **Report crime:** Under Minnesota law, a person who uses an identity that is not the person's own, with the intent to commit, aid, or abet any unlawful activity is guilty of identity theft (Minn. Stat. § 609.527, subd. 2). Victims can report the criminal identity theft to their local law enforcement agency. Ask for a copy of the report. Please note: Reporting the crime will not necessarily mean that the imposter will be charged with a crime.
4. **NCIC Identity Theft File:** When making a report to the local law enforcement agency, the victim should ask the agency about participating in the FBI's National Crime information Center Identity Theft File. The [NCIC Identity Theft File](#) program provides a means for law enforcement to flag stolen identities and identify imposters when they are encountered.
5. **Negative impact on employment opportunities:** If the false criminal history has prompted a denial of a job or a firing from a job, ask the employer for a copy of the adverse information provided by the business screening service that did the background check and the name of that service. The employer is required by law to provide this information.
6. **Correct false information held by background check companies:** Contact the business screening service that conducted the criminal background check and request that it correct the erroneous information. The business screening service must correct inaccurate data. (See Minn. Stat. 332.70, subd. 3).
7. **Employment:** Job applicants should be proactive with future applications in explaining that they are a victim of identity theft and provide the BCA letter.
8. **Further research:** Make sure that the imposter isn't using the personal information for other purposes such as getting utilities, renting an apartment, applying for benefits, applying for new credit cards, etc. Victims should check their credit report.
9. **Additional Resources:** For further information on dealing with criminal identity theft:

[Criminal Identity Theft: What to do if it happens to you](#) (Privacy Rights Clearinghouse)

[Criminal Identity Theft: A guide to the crime](#) (Identity Theft Resource Center)