

## Equifax Data Breach and You

About 143 million people had Social Security numbers, birthdays, and/or addresses stolen from Equifax - one of the largest credit bureaus. Clients have asked us what they should do about it. Here are some recommendations:

1. Check [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com) to see if your data was hacked. If so, register for one year of monitoring.
2. Put a FRAUD ALERT on your credit files with the credit bureaus to warn creditors you were hacked. They'll notify you if they get any inquiries. Credit bureau numbers are at the bottom of this article.
3. Review all your credit card financial statements to report any questionable items.
4. Let us help you file your 2017 tax returns early to reduce the chances of crooks using your Social Security number to obtain a tax refund in your name.
5. Lastly, consider putting a CREDIT FREEZE on your credit information. Call the numbers below:

Equifax: 888-766-0008

Experian: 888-397-3742

Transunion: 888-909-8872