

Identity Theft A New Buzzword, But Not A New Problem!

Identity theft has gained increased media attention over the past few years, and the latest studies suggest that 8.4 million Americans are victims of identity theft annually.¹ Although it is a topic of growing national concern, there are steps you can take to prevent becoming a victim.



Identity thieves may use your personal information to open unauthorized credit cards or loans, establish phone or other utility service, open bank accounts, create counterfeit checks or obtain employment. Financial loss and credit damage are the most devastating effects of identity theft. In addition to spending 28 hours to resolve this type of situation, new fraud victims spend an average of \$617 and existing fraud victims spend \$587 to correct errors and seek remedies.²

The group legal plan can help protect you. You can receive consultation from attorneys on preventing identity theft and receive representation in the event it actually occurs. For more information, call the Hyatt Legal Plans Client Service Center at 800-821-6400 or visit the web site at www.legalplans.com.

¹ "2008 Identity Fraud Survey Report," Javelin Strategy and Research, February 2007.

² Ibid.

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