

**The Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) recently announced that one of their third-party providers experienced a security breach on December 25, 2020. Anyone who filed an unemployment claim between January 1 and December 10, 2020 may have had their name, social security number, driver's license, and/or banking information compromised. The SAO will contact those who were affected.**

**The SAO will make resources available to help each affected individual take measures to protect their identity. The SAO is currently in the process of arranging for such services and will post that information as soon as it is available.**

### **Protect your Financial Identity and Credit History**

- Sign up for Mt Rainier Federal Credit Union's Online Banking.
- Set up alerts that notify you of account transactions. Contact us immediately if any transactions appear to be suspicious.
- If you have credit cards or accounts with another financial institution, monitor those as well, and notify the provider if you detect suspicious activity.
- Monitor your credit. Each of the three major credit reporting bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) offers a free annual report once a year. More information is available at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or by calling 1-877-322-8228.
- If you do not have upcoming large purchases, such as a home, consider placing a fraud alert or credit freeze on your credit reports. This can prevent criminals from obtaining credit in your name. This service is free, and you can do it yourself. More information can be found [here](#).
- If you have been the victim of a fraud, file a local police report. Then, [file a short report](#) with the Federal Trade Commission.
- Consider setting up an IRS account. If you do so use your social security number, it will prevent criminals from establishing an account using your identity. You may also lock your social security number, which can be done [here](#).
- Keep your notes. The paper trail may become a useful resource should you face identity theft issues or inaccuracies in your credit report in the future.