



## Equifax Data Breach - Important Information

On Thursday, Equifax, the largest US credit bureau, announced that cyber criminals have accessed sensitive personal information of approximately 143 million Americans. Equifax is one of three US credit-reporting agencies and houses information on nearly all Americans, including name, social security number, birth date, address, as well as bank account and credit card numbers. It is important to understand that even if you have never signed up with Equifax; your information may be at risk.

### *How can I protect myself?*

Equifax will be sending out letters to those whom they believe may have been affected. But in the interim, you can go to <https://www.equifaxsecurity2017.com/potential-impact/> and input your information to see if you are potentially impacted.

Regardless of whether you may have been impacted or not, Equifax is offering the option to enroll for free in their TrustedID Premier Program. This program includes access to your free credit report, 3 bureau credit file monitoring, Equifax Credit Report Lock, Social Security Monitoring and up to \$1 million in Identity Theft Insurance.

We encourage all clients to implement a credit monitoring program through any of the three credit bureaus or a third party, and to be vigilant in checking all bank accounts and credit card statements and online on a regular basis. Please get your free credit report at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) and review it annually to ensure your ID has not been compromised. Keep in mind, that while you may not have evidence of unauthorized activity at this time, cyber criminals are very patient and could use your information long after this headline fades.

As always, should you have any additional questions or concerns, please call and I will be happy to help you.

Kindest regards,

Dana