

What To Do If You Have Given Out Your Personal Financial Information

Phishing attacks are growing quite sophisticated and difficult to detect, even for the most technically savvy people. Many People are getting onto the internet and using email or Web browsers for the first time. As a result, some people are going to continue to be fooled into giving their personal financial information in response to a phishing email or phished web site.

If you have been tricked this way, you should assume that you will become a victim of credit card fraud, financial institution fraud or identity theft. Below is some advice on what to do if you are in this situation:

- **Report the theft of information to the card issuer as quickly as possible:**
- **Many companies have toll-free numbers and 24-hour service to deal with such emergencies.**
- **Cancel your account(s) and open a new one.**
- **Review your billing statements carefully after the loss:**
If you notice any unauthorized charges, it is best to send a letter to the card issuer describing each questionable charge.
- **Credit Card Loss or Fraudulent Charges (FCBA)**
Your maximum liability under federal law for unauthorized use of your credit card is \$50.00
If the loss involves your credit card number but not the card itself, you have no liability for unauthorized use.
- **ATM, Debit Card Loss or Fraudulent Transfers (EFTA)**
Your liability under federal law for unauthorized use of your ATM or debit card depends on how quickly you report the loss.
- **You risk unlimited loss if you fail to report an unauthorized transfer within 60days after your bank statement containing unauthorized use is mailed to you.**
- **Report the theft of financial information to your bank as quickly as possible.**