

# Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) Fraud

## Main way victims can report IDES fraud:

- 1) (800) 814-0513
- 2) <http://www.ides.illinois.gov> Click on Report Fraud & ID Theft and click on "Report Fraud and Identity Theft." Then click on the IDES "Contact Form," fill it out and submit it. There are additional resources on the IDES site as well.
  - If the victim doesn't report it with IDES, then there's no record of it.
  - Also note, if the victim doesn't report it, it may show up as income for the year.

## Steps to take if a victim of fraud:

- 1) Place a fraud alert on your credit
  - Lasts 1 year
  - Serves as a red flag if someone applies for something using victim's credit
  - Victim only needs to report it with 1 of the 3 credit bureaus and that credit bureau informs the other 2 credit bureaus
- 2) Put a freeze on your credit
  - Freezes your credit and nothing can be done using your information.
  - In order to lift the freeze, you have to prove who you are by giving additional information to lift the freeze. No one can run your credit or see it until the credit report freeze is lifted.
  - You need to put the freeze on your credit with ALL 3 credit bureaus
  - There is no charge for this
  - You can temporarily lift the freeze and put it back on in the event you need to use your credit
- 3) Everyone gets 1 free credit report **A WEEK**
  - **Must** go to <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>  
\*\*\*If you don't use above website, the credit check may NOT be free\*\*\*
  - This lasts all the way through April 2021
  - Normally, it's 1 free credit report a year