March 2015





Weld County District Attorney Michael J. Rourke Assistant District Attorney Robert W. Miller

Hacking into Healthcare

Hackers, or people who exploit weaknesses in computer systems, have been known for targeting large corporations, such as Target and The Home Depot. Now, the hackers have turned their focus to the less secure <u>medical industry</u>.

The financial records stolen from these cyber-attacks are usually sold quickly to the black market. Within days, a person's credit cards and identity can be compromised. With medical records going digital, it has made accessing our personal information that much easier! Experts foresee a large increase in healthcare related hacks this year...so keep your eyes open and be prepared to take quick action!!

If you believe your identifying information may have been stolen during a cyber-attack, or otherwise, the FTC suggests you:

Be Proactive

Constantly check your credit card statements, even if you haven't used them recently. Hackers will run up extra charges on your credit cards, like they did for the victims of The Home Depot breach.

Image: Construction of Construction State Construction

Most of these large corporations are taking responsibility for the breach in their internet security. Early reporting of identity theft and suspicious account activity can only assist with a quick resolution.

>>>>> Take Control of Your Credit Report

Contact credit reporting agencies and place a "*Fraud Alert*" on your credit report. This will alert you of any suspicious activity. You can also place a "*Freeze*" on your credit report. This action prevents credit reporting agencies from releasing your credit report and prevents new credit from being issued. Both of these can be removed with your consent.

Visit <u>www.Consumer.FTC.gov</u> for more details on the impact of corporate hacking, and how to take control of your credit report!

RECENT ANTHEM INSURANCE BREACH:

Anthem and the BBB warn consumers of a data breach which occurred recently potentially compromising the personal information of 80 million Americans.

Hackers breached the computer network of Anthem Insurance, stealing personal information of current and former customers going back to 2004.

Names, addresses, dates of birth, healthcare ID numbers, Social Security Numbers, along with other identifying information, have been taken. With this information, hackers are able to steal a victim's identity and create new lines of credit.

In response, Anthem has set-up 24 months of credit monitoring and additional services to help restore credit for victims. If you think you may be a victim, call **877-263-7995** or visit:

www.anthemfacts.com

Immediately report to your local police agency if you think you are a victim of crime. To view other Fraud Alerts, go to <u>www.weldda.com</u>.