

To the members of the Judiciary Committee for SB601

My name is John L. Walker, I live in Vancouver, WA

In my working history I used to work in Portland, Oregon, as well as in Vancouver, and Camas, Washington.

Which doing so, put my identity in both of these states.

I never thought that I would ever be a victim of "Identity Theft", I did however; heard of other people getting their identity stolen, through Television News casts, Radio news casts, as well as Newspapers.

When I found out that my identity was stolen, was approximately 2 years ago, when I wanted to get a cell phone through Sprint. Well as it turned out, they said I already had a cell phone and contract with them. And the cellular bill was over \$500.00 and "NOT PAID". I told them that this was not true, that I wanted to try to get a contract with them for the "VERY FIRST" time ever. They told me that I could not get a contract with them until the problem was fixed. So my "NIGHTMARE STARTED"...

I had to call their, Sprint, security team that was set up to fix these types of problems. They wanted a copy of my Driver's License, a copy of my Social Security card. I sent those items to them. 2 weeks had past, and no return call from them. I called them myself to find out what was going on, they said that the person who got the Sprint contract lived in North Seattle, Washington, and not Vancouver, Washington.

So I asked them, can this get fixed, and they said I had to contact the Police Department of Vancouver, Washington to get this problem fixed..."WHAT???" Well I did that, the police department said they would contact the Seattle Police and get this problem fixed. I thought then, that my nightmare was to be "OVER" was I ever mistaken...

2 months later, I called the Vancouver, WA Police to ask if my problem was fixed, they said it was.

I called yet again to Sprint to "TRY" to get a cell phone with them, they said "AGAIN" I had "ANOTHER" cell contract with them. I am thinking, how can this be???

I then called the security team of Sprint to find out what was going this time, they said that again my identity was stolen for the "SECOND TIME" by the "VERY SAME MAN"

I called the Vancouver Police Department, and told them my identity problem was happening again. They asked this time me what would "I like to happen to this person?" I told them that I "WANTED" this person prosecuted and locked up in jail. The police department said they would contact the Seattle police and get this fixed once and for all...

After about 2 more weeks, the police department of Vancouver, said that the police in Seattle got the guy, and locked him up. I then called Sprint again to ask if I could get the phone and contract with them, their response that time was, and I quote to approximately as close as possible...

"We are sorry, but because of the events that took place recently, we cannot start a contract in your name."

As far as I know, I am still “NOT ALLOWED” to have a cellular contract with Sprint. “I AM BEING PUNISHED FOR SOMETHING I DID NOT DO!”

And all this from some unsavory person who “NEEDED” my identity more than I. I am punished more, than he, well at least that is how I feel.

Now then,

2 weeks ago, approximately, I get a letter in the mail from CICS Employment Services saying there was a data breach, and my identity could have been compromised. I was thinking, oh god, here I go again...

But I thought something was strange about this, I was thinking at “THAT TIME” I never worked for this agency, CICS Employment Services, never realizing that they keep records for long lengths of time.

So I called, the Portland, Oregon Police Department, and told them about what was going on. They said they were not taking on this type of problem, they had me to contact the Oregon Attorney General’s Office, and file a complaint there. I filed the complaint that I thought the letter, as a whole, was a scam of some type. I sent it to them via fax.

Not too much later I got a response that the letter was in fact not a scam, and that there was a breach of data, and my identity could “VERY WELL BE AGAIN STOLEN”

I have been in contact with a person who works in that office, and he has asked me to write this letter.

My feelings on this matter:

In my working experience, I controlled 250 laptop computers from my office of where I worked. I did that wirelessly. So I know some of which is going on about data breaches. Identity theft, and so on.

I feel that most companies, have been and are being way to loose with securing peoples identities. Leaving this with how the Credit cards, Debit cards, as well as certain software is applied and used. And not really “TRYING” to ask the question, “Just how safe is everyone’s identity is?”

When someone, like me for example, gets his or hers identity stolen, they are “VICTIMISED”, similar to that of someone being violated sexually.

We then have to fight to get our very being back. And sometimes it works, and sometimes it does not. But does “ANYONE” really care about the victim?

What really happens is, the focus is “PLACED ON” the criminal. What happened in his or her life to lead them to this type of crime.

And then the problem is “REALLY NEVER FIXED” so this type of crime “DOES NOT” happen again, but it does, like me.

IT HAPPENED TO ME, 2 TIMES, BY THE SAME MAN. And now, a data breach. What next?...

How much more will it take before this is “STOPPED” or at least slowed down enough to catch the identity thieves?

Best regards,
John L. Walker