Allstate Identity Protection Presents

Why employers should care when employees have their identities stolen

Allstate SM
IDENTITY PROTECTION

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Year after year, identity theft causes personal and financial harm, and it's not only your employees who end up paying a price. When your employees have their identity stolen, this can spell big problems for your business as well. Let's take a closer look at why this is the case, and, most importantly, what you can do to protect your company's greatest asset — your employees.

State of identity theft

With data breaches occurring at an alarming rate, it's no surprise your employees are concerned with having their identity stolen. In 2018, 471.23M records were exposed due to data breaches in the United States[1] — compromising more than 14.4 million people's identities.[2] So, the chances that your employees will experience identity theft in the future, if they have not already, is a very real possibility.

#1

Identity theft was the **most common fraud complaint** reported to the FTC in 2019[3]

13%

Identity fraud **losses increased 13%** over the prior year to a total of $16.9 billion (USD) in 2019[4]

#1

Americans rate criminal hacking as the **number one threat** to their health, safety, and prosperity[5]

41%

of Americans have been either **a victim, or know someone who has** been a victim of identity theft[6]

21%

of those who have experienced identity theft have been the victim of **multiple incidents**[7]

Why employers should care:

Employers often play a role in employee identity theft

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One of the many reasons employers should care about identity theft is that they often directly contribute to their employee's identity being stolen, despite the best of efforts. In fact, employers are often the biggest culprit in breaching individual privacy. This is largely because state and federal laws require employers to maintain a tremendous amount of personal information on every employee, from Social Security numbers to addresses.

- In most instances, cybercriminals are able to steal every employee's personal data in a single attack
- 33% of phishing attacks come from emails designed to appear as though they are coming directly from the CEO of an organization[8]
- Identity theft is often perpetrated by fellow employees and sometimes even managers and executives
- As much as 50% of identity theft originates in the workplace[9]

Why employers should care:

Identity theft costs

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In addition to the moral obligation an employer has to help protect their employees' identities, they also have a financial one. When employees have their identities stolen, companies can pay big.

Courts are increasingly holding employers liable for the loss of their employees' confidential information, even in the absence of a specific law requiring them to protect such data

35% of companies said identity theft-related attacks led to the loss of productivity and another 8% said the attacks damaged their company's reputation[10]

When employees have their identities stolen, they can become easily distracted at work due to the tremendous financial and legal burden placed on them:

- 32% of victims said identity theft caused problems for them at their place of work[11]
- More than 77% reported increased stress levels and nearly 64% said they had trouble concentrating at work and home[11]
- It can cost your employees around $13,000 out of pocket to resolve issues stemming from medical identity theft[12]

An employer can also expect employees who are victims of identity theft to miss a significant amount of work. The average amount of time required to resolve the repercussions of identity theft can take up to 200 hours — or approximately six months — per person[13]

Gallup's annual State of the American Workplace 2017 report found companies with low levels of engagement, when compared to companies with high levels of engagement, experience:[14]

- 20% lower sales
- 17% less productivity from identity theft
- 21% lower profitability
- Between 24% - 59% higher turnover
- 70% more employee safety incidents

A partner in online protection:

We’re here to help you protect your employees

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Research by Willis Towers Watson found that 36% of employers currently offer identity protection as a voluntary benefit and 63% of employers plan to extend it by 2021, making identity theft protection one of the fastest-growing benefits offered to employees today.[15] And, with a number of solutions on the market, it's imperative you select a plan that goes far above and beyond traditional credit monitoring services. Make sure the plan you select contains the following features, all of which come standard with Allstate Identity Protection:

- A **powerful and easy** way for employees to see online accounts and identify potential breaches with the Allstate Digital Footprint℠
- **Proactive alerts** that notify on applications for credit cards, wireless carriers, utility accounts, and non-credit accounts
- The **monitoring** of high-risk identity activity such as password resets, fund transfers, unauthorized account access, compromised credentials, address changes, and public record alerts
- Tools to assist in monitoring and **preserving** your online reputation across social networks
- A **dedicated advocate** to guide and manage your employee's full recovery process, restoring credit, identity, accounts, finances, and their sense of security, in the event identity theft does occur
- **A $1,000,000 Identity Theft Insurance Policy**† to cover lost wages, legal fees, medical records request fees, CPA fees, child care and more

†Identity theft insurance underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of Assurant. The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions, and exclusions of the policies described. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

Allstate Identity Protection is the marketing name used by InfoArmor, Inc., a subsidiary of The Allstate Corporation.

If you're serious about protecting your employees' identities, reach out. We'd love to help get you started.

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