

Cybersecurity Bill of Rights

Adopted October 14, 2015 by the Cybersecurity (EX) Task Force

As an insurance consumer, you have the right to:

1. Know the types of personal information collected and stored by your insurance company, agent or any business they contract with (such as marketers and data warehouses).
2. Expect insurance companies/agencies to have a privacy policy posted on their website and available in hard copy, if you ask. The privacy policy should explain: what personal information they collect, what choices consumers have about their data, how consumers can see and change/correct their data if needed, how the data is stored/protected, and what consumers can do if the company/agency doesn't follow its privacy policy.
3. Expect your insurance company, agent, or any business they contract with to take reasonable steps to keep unauthorized persons from seeing, stealing, or using your personal information.
4. Get a notice from your insurance company, agent, or any business they contract with if an unauthorized person has (or it seems likely they have) seen, stolen, or used your personal information. This is called a *data breach*. This notice should:
 - Be sent in writing by first-class mail or by e-mail if you've agreed to that;
 - Be sent soon after a data breach, and never more than 60 days after a data breach is discovered;
 - Describe the type of information involved in a data breach, and the steps you can take to protect yourself from identity theft or fraud;
 - Describe the action(s) the insurance company, agent, or business they contract with has taken to keep your personal information safe;
 - Include contact information for the three nationwide credit bureaus;
 - Include contact information for the company or agent involved in a data breach.
5. Get at least one (1) year of identity theft protection paid for by the company or agent involved in a data breach.
6. If someone steals your identity, you have a right to:
 - Put a 90-day initial fraud alert on your credit reports (the first credit bureau you contact will alert the other two);
 - Put a seven-year extended fraud alert on your credit reports;
 - Put a credit freeze on your credit report;
 - Get a free copy of your credit report from each credit bureau;
 - Get fraudulent information related to the data breach removed (or "blocked") from your credit reports;
 - Dispute fraudulent or wrong information on your credit reports;
 - Stop creditors and debt collectors from reporting fraudulent accounts related to the data breach;
 - Get copies of documents related to the identity theft;
 - Stop a debt collector from contacting you.

To learn more about the protections in your state or territory, contact your consumer protection office at <https://www.usa.gov/state-consumer> or your state or territory's insurance department at http://www.naic.org/state_web_map.htm.

This Cybersecurity Bill of Rights describes what you can expect from insurance companies, agents, and other businesses when they collect, maintain, and use your personal information. These include your rights as an insurance consumer when you get a notice that your personal information was involved in a data breach. Your specific rights may vary based on state and federal law.

Standard Definitions under this Bill of Rights

Data Breach: When an unauthorized individual or organization sees, steals, or uses sensitive, protected, or confidential information, usually personal, financial and/or health information.

Credit Bureau (Consumer Reporting Agency): A business that prepares credit reports for a fee and provides those reports to consumers and businesses; its information sources are primarily other businesses.

Credit Freeze (Security Freeze): A way you can restrict access to your credit report and prevent anyone other than you from using your credit information.

Personal Information (Personally Identifiable Information): Any information about a consumer that an insurance company, its agents, or any business they contract with maintains which can be used to identify a consumer. Examples include:

- Full name;
- Social Security Number;
- Date and place of birth;
- Mother's maiden name;
- Biometric records; and
- Driver's license number

Helpful Links:

Credit Freeze FAQs (Federal Trade Commission) <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs>

Disputing Errors on Credit Reports (Federal Trade Commission) – <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0151-disputing-errors-credit-reports>

Identity Theft: What to Know, What to Do (Federal Trade Commission, May 2012). Tri-fold brochure; online PDF; can order bulk copies at no cost – <https://bulkorder.ftc.gov/system/files/publications/pdf-0009-taking-charge.pdf>

Know Your Rights (Federal Trade Commission) – <https://www.identitytheft.gov/know-your-rights.html>

What Is Identity Theft? (video; Federal Trade Commission) – <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/media/video-0023-what-identity-theft>

When Information Is Lost or Stolen (Federal Trade Commission) – <https://www.identitytheft.gov/info-lost-or-stolen.html>

State Consumer Protection Offices (USA.gov) – <http://www.usa.gov/directory/stateconsumer/index.shtml>

Directory of State Insurance Regulators (National Association of Insurance Commissioners)
http://www.naic.org/state_web_map.htm

World's Biggest Data Breaches (information is beautiful) – <http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/worlds-biggest-data-breaches-hacks/>