



# NEWS FROM SCDCA

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SCDCA Releases New Brochure on Child Identity Theft**

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is warning consumers about the dangers of child identity theft. SCDCA’s new guide outlines the warning signs of child identity theft and best practices for preventing it.

Most notably, the guide encourages consumers to utilize the protected consumer freeze, a tool made available to South Carolina residents last year. The protected consumer freeze allows parents, guardians, and representatives to create and freeze a protected consumer’s credit file for FREE. This line of defense is for protected consumers who do not currently have a credit report. Upon receiving a request on behalf of a protected consumer, the credit reporting agency (CRA) will create a credit file in that consumer’s name and freeze it.

For more information on child identity theft and the protected consumer freeze, visit [www.consumer.sc.gov](http://www.consumer.sc.gov) and click REPORT IDENTITY THEFT. View [“Child Identity Theft, What You Need to Know”](#) in its entirety.

### **About SCDCA**

The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. To file a complaint or get information on consumer issues, visit [www.consumer.sc.gov](http://www.consumer.sc.gov) or call toll-free, 1-800-922-1594.

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