### Annual Impact

- · 10M IDT victims
- · \$50B cost to America
- · 28% of IDT involve credit or financial fraud
- 50% open new accounts
- · >60% of Preparers have clients with Tax Fraud IDT



Source: Federal Trade Commission

## How Thieves Get Your Information

- 60% Sort through your trash or Personal Computer
- 25% Scam or Hack you While Online
- 15% Steal Your Wallet

#### **Identity Theft Facts**



Source: Federal Trade Commission

SHRED <u>ALL</u> FINANCIAL RECORDS AND MAIL THAT CONTAINS PERSONAL INFORMATION (If you do not have a crosscut shredder, bring your papers to Shotland Tax Consulting and use our shredder)

# Passwords and Online Security Examples of weak passwords

- · 123456
- password
- · 12345678
- · abc123
- · qwerty
- · 123456789
- · 111111
- · 1234567
- · Iloveyou
- · adobe123

#### **Identity Theft Facts**



Source: Federal Trade Commission

Use strong passwords, both upper and lower case letters, numbers and special characters

Make it difficult for hackers to steal your personal ID

## Passwords and Online Security

- · Criminals count on RE-USE of passwords
- · 40% mobile phones have no lock code
- · Database hacks

#### **Identity Theft Facts**



Source: Federal Trade Commission



#### Steps you should take to prevent identity theft

- 1. Shred financial records
- 2. Change passwords often
- 3. Use password manager
- 4. Do not leave network on when not in use
- 5. Use anti-virus software
- 6. Insure firewall is set correctly
- 7. Use password with wireless network
- 8. Review credit report at least once a year

- 1. File a Report with Law Enforcement
- 2. Report Identity Theft at ftc.gov/complaint
- 3. Place a "Fraud Alert" on one of the Credit Bureaus
- 4. Close any Financial Accounts Opened or Compromised
- **5. Review SSA.gov Social Security Earnings Statement**
- 6. Complete IRS Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit

**Identity Theft Response** 

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