

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

HOW TO REPORT THAT YOU ARE OR HAVE BEEN THE VICTIM OF MAIL THEFT...

1. Pittsburg Police Department to file a police report, or file it online at:
www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us
2. File a report with the United States Postal Service at www.postalinspectors.uspis.gov
3. Contact institutions in which you have not received mail
4. Closely monitor your credit report for unusual activity



USPS Inspector
877-876-2455

If you would like to form a
Neighborhood Watch
Group in your neighborhood,
contact the
Pittsburg Police Department
at **925-252-4980**.



National Fraud Information Center
www.fraud.org or 1-800-876-7060

Office of the Attorney General
www.ag.ca.gov

U.S. Department of Justice
www.usdoj.gov

Federal Trade Commission
www.ftc.gov or 1-877-IDTHEFT

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Pittsburg Police Department
65 Civic Avenue - Pittsburg, CA 94565
925-252-4980 www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us



Preventing Mail Theft



A Resource Guide
for Residents
and Businesses

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Chief of Police



The theft of mail from residential mailboxes is an increasing problem. Criminals use this as a means to obtain your identity information and to steal checks and other items of value. This problem can be reduced or minimized by following these tips.

- Remove mail from mailbox daily as soon as possible after delivery. Do not leave mail in your mailbox overnight.
- Never leave mail in mailbox overnight. The US Postal Service will hold mail for you at no charge when you are away.
- If you travel frequently, consider the security of renting a post office box.
- Deposit outgoing mail only in blue US Postal Service collection boxes or at your local post office. Do not place outgoing mail, especially checks, in your personal mailbox or in your apartment complex outgoing mail slot.
- Do not use the red flag on your mailbox as it can also flag criminals!
- Have boxes of checks mailed to your bank branch for pick-up.
- Keep track of monthly financial statements.
- If you do not receive an expected financial statement, credit card or check, report it promptly to the issuing entity.

- Purchase a paper shredder or otherwise destroy any unwanted mail that contains any financial or personal identifier information.
- Use a gel-type ink to write checks. It is much more difficult to chemically remove and alter.
- If you're expecting checks, credit cards, or other negotiable items and cannot retrieve them in a timely manner, ask a trusted friend or neighbor to pick up your mail.
- If you don't receive a check or other valuable mail you're expecting, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- If you change your address, immediately notify your Post Office and anyone with whom you do business via the mail.
- Don't send cash in the mail.
- Tell your Post Office when you will be out of town, so they can hold your mail until you return.



- Report all suspected mail theft to the Pittsburg Police Department and a US Postal Inspector.
- Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch Program. By exchanging work and vacation schedules with trusted friends and neighbors, you can watch each other's mailboxes (as well as homes).
- Consult with your local Postmaster for the most up-to-date regulations on mailboxes, including the availability of locked centralized or curbside mailboxes.

