



IDENTITY THEFT

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THE WOLFE LAW GROUP

The Wolfe Law Group is an international array of legal and tax experts providing collaborative services for Global High Net Worth Investors on a per client basis.

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Awards

Since 2015 Gary have been the recipient of 29 separate international tax awards from 10 different global expert societies in London/UK including:

International Tax Planning Law Firm of the Year Award (2017) – International Advisory Experts.

International Tax Advisor of the Year (2017) - Global Business Magazine/Prof. Sector Network.

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Books

To date Gary has written 18 e-books [\(available on Amazon\)](#) regarding the IRS, International Tax Planning and Asset Protection. [Click here for complete list.](#)

Articles

To date Gary has published or been interviewed in 100+ separate articles published by 15 different US and International magazines. [Click here for complete list.](#)

Video

In December 2016 Gary was interviewed by California CEO Magazine and RCBNNNews.org on the subject of Criminal Tax Evasion and IRS Tax Audits: Civil and Criminal Issues. This 4 part series, which has been published by [Lorman Education](#), can be viewed below:

[Criminal Tax Evasion - Part 1](#)

[Criminal Tax Evasion – Part 2](#)

[Criminal Tax Evasion – Part 3](#)

[Criminal Tax Evasion – Part 4](#)

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Identity Theft

Written by Gary S. Wolfe

Identity theft has become an integral part of tax evasion and money laundering since “fictitious” actors cannot give “testimony” implicating the criminal masterminds behind the crimes.

The U.S. DOJ confirms that identity theft (fraud) refers to all types of crimes in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person’s personal data in some way that involved fraud or deception for their gain.

The U.S. DOJ works with the FBI/others to criminally prosecute identity theft (fraud) under a variety of federal statutes.

In 1998 U.S. congress passed Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act. Under this legislation, the new crime of “identity theft with a 15 year jail term (and asset forfeitures/criminal seizures)” see USC 1028 (a)(7).

Criminal schemes to commit identity theft (fraud) may involve other 30-year federal felonies (jail time):

- 1) Identification fraud (18 USC 1028); note our recent case; although within the sole discretion of the criminal prosecutor the crime of reported is a 30 year federal felony. California laws are less punitive (in CA identity theft may either be a misdemeanor or felony)
- 2) Credit card fraud (18 USC 1029)
- 3) Computer fraud (18 USC 1030)
- 4) Mail fraud (18 USC 1341)
- 5) Wire fraud (18 USC 1343)
- 6) Financial institutions fraud (18 USC 1344)

Under U.S. federal law misprision of a felony (18 USC sec. 4) it is a felony to fail to report a felony. The phone number for the U.S. Dept. of Justice in Washington, D.C. is (202)-514-2000. In my evaluation these are the best in the world (government lawyers) and should be addressed and dealt with professionally and respectfully at all times.

Although not clear if you report a crime you become a witness so keep copious notes and memorialize your recollection while "fresh" by having your lawyer prepare your statement as an affidavit or declaration.

For those U.S. tax payers who are victims of theft/fraud losses, these losses may be fully tax deductible as ordinary income tax losses (and may generate tax free future income up to the amount of the tax loss or tax refunds for taxes paid for prior 3 years). See, the IRS and Defrauded Investors: Theft Tax Loss 2015.

Additionally: notify company (in writing) where fraud occurred (and keep digital and paper copies), place a fraud alert on your accounts and get updated personal credit reports. Report identity theft to the FTC, FBI, and file a police report with local police.

The U.S. government is a powerful force and is there to help us all. That's our tax dollars at work.

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