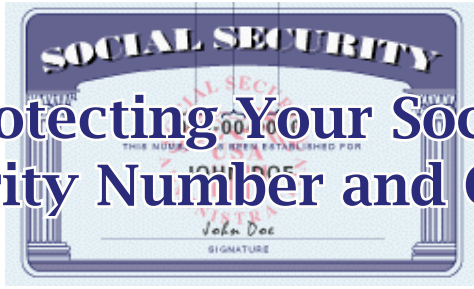


Protecting Your Social Security Number and Credit



State law prohibits most individuals and businesses from publicly disclosing Social Security numbers. No person, firm, corporation, or other entity, other than the state or its political subdivisions, may:

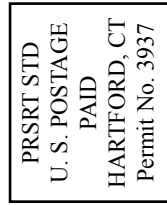
- o Intentionally communicate an individual's Social Security number.
- o Print a person's Social Security number on any card that he or she must use to access an entity's products or services.
- o Require a person to use his or her Social Security number to access an Internet website, unless a password, personal identification number, or other authentication is also required to access it.

This prohibition, however, does not prevent entities from collecting, using, or releasing Social Security numbers as required by state or federal law, or from using them for internal verification or administrative purposes.

To help protect your credit and combat fraud and identity theft, consumer credit bureaus must freeze your credit report within five days if you request it. Businesses also must inform you if a security breach occurs involving your computerized personal information.

Finally, you are entitled to a free credit report, which you may request on the Internet or by phone from three nationwide consumer credit bureaus:


- o Equifax: www.equifax.com (800-525-6285)
- o Experian: www.experian.com (888-397-3742)
- o Transunion: www.transunion.com (800-680-7289)



How to Contact Me

In the District:
23 Angel Place
North Haven, CT 06473-2402
234-2240
www.stevefontana.com

At the Capitol:
Legislative Office Building
Room 3902
Hartford, CT 06106-1591
1-800-842-8267 or (860) 240-8709




State Representative Steve Fontana
Legislative Office Building, Room 3902
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

State Representative Steve Fontana

87th District- *Serving*
North Haven



**State Resources
and
Useful Information**



Helpful Links and Services

Senior Financial Assistance



There is a new online service that helps seniors apply for financial assistance programs. This website www.benefitscheckup.org/link/, is easy to navigate and can direct you to financial assistance programs of which you may not have been aware.

This website covers all aspects of applying for these programs, starting with your free eligibility screening. This helpful service has been provided by AARP Connecticut, the Senior Resources Agency on Aging CHOICES Program, and the Elderly Services Division of the State Department of Social Services. For more information, call **(860) 887-3561**.

Guide to Good Health for Adults

“Pocket Guide for Good Health for Adults” is full of helpful tips on health. The guide includes information on what tests and shots seniors should be taking, as well as providing guidance on what to ask when speaking to your health care professional. It also includes prevention charts to help keep you aware of your own health status. To order free copies of this guide, call the Agency of Health Care Research and Quality Publications Clearinghouse at **1-800-358-9295** or e-mail www.ahrqpubs@ahrq.gov. This helpful guide was developed by the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, as part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Home Repair Program for Seniors

The Home Solutions program is a service that provides financial support for house repairs, hazardous material abatement, septic system repair, removal or enlargement, and emergency repairs for senior citizens. The funding for this program comes from a state-wide combined loan and grant program. The funds are provided by the State of Connecticut through the Department of Economic and Community Development and are given to both residential owner occupied and rental properties. For more information, call Home Solutions at **(860) 347-4465**.

Medicare Advocacy

The Center for Medicare Advocacy is an organization that helps elderly and disabled residents receive medical assistance through advocacy and legal assistance. The Center for Medicare Advocacy is non-profit and non-partisan. The Center’s main concern is for people who are in serious need of immediate health care. The Center is located in Connecticut and is staffed by all types of professionals, such as attorneys, nurses, legal assistants, and information management specialists. To learn more about the Center for Medicare Advocacy you may visit the website at www.medicareadvocacy.org or call the national office in Connecticut at **(860) 456-7790**.



Remembering Veterans

The Veterans History Project has been established at Central Connecticut State University to allow veterans to share their photographs and documents for posterity so that future generations will never forget their sacrifices for America. This program is an online archive of veterans’ war journals, maps, and photographs. To join the history project by submitting your own records, or to view those of other veterans, go to www.ccsu.edu/vhp. You then click on “search our database” in order to view veterans photographs and documents. You may then search by name, war, or branch of service. If you would like to submit your own documents online, you can click on the “how to participate” link available on the website home page. You can also join the Veterans History Project by contacting Eileen Hurst at **(860) 832-2976**.

College Resources

The Connecticut Student Loan Foundation (CSLF) has teamed up with guaranty agencies nationwide to develop www.Going2College.org. This is an online college and career planning resource for students and families that includes how to pay for a college education. Simply click on Connecticut and learn how to fill out a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**, or find information on available federal and state scholarships and grants. The site also gives important information on the process of applying to colleges and universities. Explore the career planning link and find valuable career assessment sites that can match your skills, interests, and personality to careers that would best suit you. You may also phone CSLF at **1-800-237-9721 Ext. 442**.



USEFUL NUMBERS

Connecticut Legal Assistance.....	1-800-413-7796
Consumer Protection.....	1-800-842-2649
Unclaimed Property Hotline.....	1-800-833-7318
Tax Department.....	1-800-382-9463
Veterans’ Benefits and Information	1-866-928-8387
ConnPACE	1-800-423-5026
Medicare Hotline.....	1-800-633-4227
CT Partnership for Long-Term Care	1-800-547-3443
Elderly Services Division of the Department of Social Services	1-800-994-9422
Infoline	211
Department of Veterans’ Affairs.....	1-800-550-0000
Attorney General’s Office	(860) 808-5318