



NEWS RELEASE



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Media Advisory:

Identity theft is reaching epidemic proportions in America. The Federal Trade Commission reported identity theft as its number one source of consumer complaints (42% of all complaints) in 2001, with numbers growing every year.

This costly and hard-to-fight crime often goes on without the victim's knowledge. The effects on a consumer's credit and daily life can be devastating. Because of damaged credit ratings, victims find it difficult to obtain new credit cards or loans. Collection agencies hound them to pay for charges they did not make. They are forced to prove, often without concrete evidence, that they are not responsible for the illegal activities committed in their names.

One of the ways to prevent identity thieves from getting your personal information and financial files is to shred the documents. Crime Stoppers, Office Depot and Shred-it have gotten together to host a Community Shred event on April 28, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the Office Depot store located at 6861 West Newberry Road. You can bring all of the documents you can carry to the Shred-it mobile trucks at the event. While you are there, you can take advantage of special Office Depot discounts on Ativa shredders, security products and copy/print services.

All voluntary donations will benefit Crime Stoppers.