

CPNs - What are they all about?

You have heard a lot of people talking about this subject. Some say that there is no such thing, others say that there are but are illegal, and some inform people say that they definitely are for real. Well, let us provide a little more insight.

Legality of CPN: Presently, federal law allows the ability for someone to legally use a private ID # for financial reporting purposes instead of a Social Security Number.

Title 5, Section 7 of Publication Law 93-579 of Government Organization and Employees Act: (a) (1) It shall be unlawful for any Federal, State or Local Government Agency to deny any individual any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law because of such individual's refusal to disclose his or hers Social Security Account Number. What this means is Federal Law protects those who do not wish to disclose their personal information (SS#) except where required to do so. Disclosure of your social security number is only required when dealing with the IRS, your employer, or when applying for a federally insured mortgage. Instead of a Social Security Number, you now have the opportunity to establish a Credit Privacy Number (CPN). A Credit Privacy Number is a new 9 digit number established for financial reporting purposes. This number is NOT a new social. It is simply an available file number at the credit bureaus that can have financial information reported. You have the right to establish this number only once, so do not abuse it. The bureaus or the IRS can take part in this process to establish your CPN. **YOU ARE LIABLE FOR PAYING BACK ANYTHING THAT IS BORROWED with this new CPN.**

It is used by celebrities, congress members/government workers, and witness protection reasons. For example, celebrities use it because the media can use their SS# to track what they are buying and where they are simply by tracking their credit cards. Further, in example, congress holds special privileges to the law; therefore, their privacy needs to be protected. In another example, witnesses under protection can be located if they use their true social security number for transaction. This is the reason why there is the existence of a Credit Privacy Number program. Reasons are not limited to the previous, so why shouldn't you have a CPN?

Members of Congress plan to reintroduce a bill to restrict the availability and use of Social Security numbers, hoping the effort will reduce identity theft. A Social Security Subcommittee Chairman by the name of E. Clay Shaw, announced at a July 11 hearing that he and subcommittee ranking member Robert Matsui, plan to unveil legislation to restrict the sale and public display of Social Security numbers, establish penalties for violations, limit dissemination of numbers by credit reporting agencies, make it more difficult for businesses to deny services if a customer refuses to provide their social security number. The goal is to improve the integrity of the Social Security number assignment process.

"Congress must act this session to protect the very number it requires each of us to obtain and use throughout our lifetime," said Shaw.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Do you really understand how your social security number is used?

A: The social security administration was created during the great depression. The Federal Government's intention was to allow Americans to save for our retirement so that we may live in our senior years. Like it or not that was the plan. Over the years, the "social security" number, which was intended to identify your retirement accounts, has become a tool for the government and other private

organizations to track us in numerous ways. Although, that was not the original intent of a “Social Security Number”, it has become an easy way for different organizations to identify us. For example, you are often asked for your SS # for a new bank account, credit union, or when applying for a driver’s license.

Q: Why do these organizations insist on requiring your social security number to identify you?

A: Because we allow them to! The sole purpose of your social security number is for tax and social security use ONLY! The law states that No federal, state, or local government agency may deny you any right, privilege or benefit due to your refusal to provide your SS # for any other reason than producing money for retirement account with the Social Security Administration, the IRS and your employer today. Credit Bureaus are not legally allowed to “require” your Social Security Number. In our country’s present credit reporting system a person may be assumed guilty and then must expend a great deal of time and resources to prove his or her innocence. Additionally, once a negative item is in a credit file it may remain long past the 7 year time period most people believe is used. Additionally, a misreported item can show up in a credit report multiple times.

Q: What Will My New Credit Score Be?

A: Your new credit file will be completely blank, and it will take the acquiring of credit accounts and credit history to attain a new credit score.

Q: Am I still responsible for all my old debts?

A: Yes. You are still completely responsible to handle all of your prior debts.

Q: Is this a second social security number?

A: No. Your new nine digit credit profile number will not be used for any government interactions. Employment, Drivers License's, Welfare, and any other social welfare was meant to utilize your Social Security Number to gain benefits.

Q: Can I use this number just like a Social Security Number? A: No. This number is for credit purposes only and is not to be used for the following: Military, Child support, DSS income, SSI, taxes, FHA, VA, or any government programs or funding.

Q: What Can I Use With My New Credit Profile?

A: This new credit profile can be used for credit purposes only. It can be used for attaining credit cards, car loans, mortgages, personal unsecured loans and more.

If you have any questions pertaining to the use of a CPN/SCN, please do not hesitate to ask me.