

Equifax isn't calling

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September 14, 2017 by Lisa Weintraub Schifferle Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer and Business Education

Ring, ring. "This is Equifax calling to verify your account information." Stop. Don't tell them anything. They're not from Equifax. It's a scam. Equifax will not call you out of the blue.

That's just one scam you might see after <u>Equifax's recent data breach</u>. Other calls might try to trick you into giving your personal information. Here are some tips for recognizing and preventing <u>phone scams</u> and <u>imposter scams</u>:

- **Don't give personal information.** Don't provide any personal or financial information unless you've initiated the call and it's to a phone number you know is correct.
- **Don't trust caller ID.** Scammers can spoof their numbers so it looks like they are calling from a particular company, even when they're not.
- If you get a robocall, hang up. Don't press 1 to speak to a live operator or any other key to take your number off the list. If you respond by pressing any number, it will probably just lead to more robocalls.

If you've already received a call that you think is fake, report it to the FTC.

If you gave your personal information to an imposter, it's time to change any compromised passwords, account numbers or security questions. And if you're concerned about identity theft, visit <u>IdentityTheft.gov</u> to learn how you can protect yourself.

For more information about the Equifax breach, visit Equifax's website, www.equifaxsecurity2017.com or contact their call center at 866-447-7559.

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