

Para Informacion en español, visite www.ftc.gov/credit o escribe a la FTC Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A 600 Pennsylvania Avenue. N.W., Washington, DC 20580

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under the FCRA. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.ftc.gov/credit or write to: **Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue. N.W., Washington, DC 20580.**

- You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or any other type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment – or to take adverse action against you - must tell you, and give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.

- You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer-reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:

- A person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit file;
- You are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
- Your file contains inaccurate information as the result of fraud;
- You are on public assistance;
- You are employed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.

In addition, by September 2005 all consumers will be entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See www.ftc.gov/credit for additional information.

- You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score form consumer reporting agencies that create credit scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information free from the mortgage lender.

- You have a right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer-reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See www.ftc.gov/credit for an explanation of dispute procedures.

- Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However a consumer reporting agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.

- Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer-reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.

- Access to your file is limited.** A consumer report agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need – usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer,

landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.

- You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer-reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information go to www.ftc.gov/credit.

- You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance must include a toll-free number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based on. You may opt-out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688)

- You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.

- Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit www.ftc.gov/credit.

States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. Federal enforcers are:

TYPE OF BUSINESS	CONTACT:
Consumer reporting agencies, creditors and others not listed below.	Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center – FCRA Washington, DC 20580 1-877-382-4357
National banks, federal branches/agencies of foreign banks (word “National” or initials “N.A.” appear in or after banks name)	Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Compliance Management Mail Stop 6-6 Washington DC 20219 1-800-613-6743
Federal Reserve System member banks (Except national banks and federal branches/agencies of foreign banks)	Federal Reserve Board Division of Consumer & Community Affairs Washington, DC 20551 202-452-3693
Savings associations and federally chartered savings banks (word “Federal” or initials “F.S.B.” appear in the federal institutions name)	Office of Thrift Supervision Consumer Complaints Washington, DC 20552 (800) 842-6929
Federal Credit Unions (words “Federal Credit Union” appear in the institutions name)	National Credit Union Administration 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314 (703) 519-4600
State-chartered banks that are not members of the Federal Reserve System	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Division of Compliance & Consumer affairs Washington, DC 20590 (800) 934-FDIC
Air, surface, or rail common carriers regulated by former Civil Aeronautics Board or Interstate Commerce Commission	Department of Transportation Office of Financial Management Washington, DC 20590 (202) 366-1306
Activities subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921	Department of Agriculture Office of Deputy Administrator - GIPSA Washington, DC 20250 (202) 720-7051