



Contact: Kate Ennis
(301) 580-6726

kate@enniscommunications.com

For Immediate Release

ITAC PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL IDENTITY CRIME LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM

ITAC will share victim information to help law enforcement investigate, prosecute crime

PHILADELPHIA, Penn., July 10, 2008 – ITAC President Anne Wallace today joined U.S. Attorney Pat Meehan of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and Deputy Chief Postal Inspector Ken Jones to announce The National Identity Crime Law Enforcement system (NICLE). NICLE will collect information about identity crime to be shared local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

In prepared remarks, Wallace said: “ITAC can and does help these people address the financial consequences of the crime to restore their financial identities. What we cannot do is bring them justice. That’s what the professionals in the U.S. Attorney’s office and the U.S. Postal Inspection service do everyday. And it’s why I’m proud to express ITAC’s support and commitment to the National Identity Crime Law Enforcement system.”

NICLE will provide a central repository of stolen identity information, allowing federal, state and local agencies to learn immediately whether a particular piece of identification (driver’s license, credit card, address, social security number, etc.) has been reported stolen or used elsewhere in the course of a crime. It will also name investigators, thus permitting departments and agencies to coordinate when working on crimes involving the same or connected identities or credit card numbers.

“One of the biggest problems with identity theft has been that the stolen information can be used for weeks if not months before anyone realizes that a crime has been committed,” said Meehan. “This new system will allow law enforcement agencies to query the system to look for patterns revealing the operation of identity theft gangs and will help locate the sources of stolen identification information.”

The NICLE database was designed by local, state, and federal criminal investigators participating in the Regional Identity Theft Working Group, organized by the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Programming, as well as ongoing computer services, are being provided by the United States Postal Inspection Service.

The Postal Inspection Service intends to promote law enforcement use of NICLE through all of its divisions in the network-covered portion of the country (Delaware, District of Columbia, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania) and to provide follow-up training.

Use of NICLE is free. All that is required is that agencies join Mid-Atlantic Great Lakes Network and agree to contribute information to the database.

About ITAC

ITAC, the Identity Theft Assistance Center (www.identitytheftassistance.org), is a nonprofit coalition of financial services companies united in our commitment to protect our customers from identity theft. As the leading provider of identity assistance services, ITAC protects all consumers through partnerships with law enforcement, education and identity management services.