



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

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January 12, 2007

Public Service Announcement **Computer Thefts at the University of Idaho**

Dear Friends,

As you are all likely aware, the University of Idaho released information this week regarding a theft of three University of Idaho computers that were taken from campus sometime during the Thanksgiving recess. The university promptly alerted the Moscow Police Department (MPD) to the theft and an investigation ensued. During the week of December 11, 2006, the case was turned over to the Latah County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) so as to limit the perception of a conflict of interest between the University of Idaho and their contractual law enforcement agency, MPD. The Latah County Prosecutor's Office, the law enforcement agencies and the university agreed that it was in the best interest of the case and to protect individual information to delay a public release of the theft while an initial investigation ensued. The Prosecutor's office notified the University last week (January 5, 2006) that a release of the information to the general public was appropriate.

Although we have had no indication that any information contained on the computers has been accessed, we encourage you to take the same precautions with your personal information that we always have:

- ◆ Monitor your Social Security statement (learn how to do this and how to report any perceived errors at www.ssa.gov/pubs/10064.html)
- ◆ Monitor your personal credit report using any of these three entities (Equifax: 1-800-525-6285 or www.equifax.com, Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742) or www.experian.com, TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289 or www.transunion.com)
- ◆ Report any peculiarities or problems to your local law enforcement agency or to the Latah County Sheriff's Office (208-882-2216 or jmcfarland@latah.id.us)

We assure you that your Latah County Sheriff's detectives are working diligently on this case. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us at (208) 882-2216 or by email at jmcfarland@latah.id.us. Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

Det. Jennifer L. McFarland
Public Information Officer