

RESOLUTION NO. 395

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS,  
INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE, THE IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION  
PROGRAM, IMPLEMENTED THE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION, AS  
MANDATED BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, the Federal Trade Commission has mandated that all municipal  
utilities are now required to adopt and execute an Identity Theft Prevention Program  
(ITPP).

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus, Kansas, hereby adopts the ITPP dated this  
date and attached hereto.

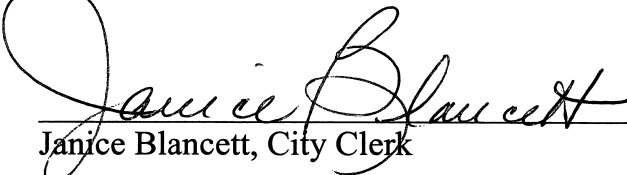
WHEREAS, all other resolutions inconsistent or in conflict with the terms and  
provisions hereof are repealed.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the governing body of the City of Columbus, Kansas,  
this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2009.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marie Nepple, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Blancett, City Clerk

(Seal)

**CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS**  
**IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM**  
Implemented as of November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

## I. INTRODUCTION

The City of Columbus, Kansas (the "City") developed this Identity Theft Prevention Program ("Program") pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") Red Flag Rule, which implements Section 114 of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act of 2003. 16 C.F.R. § 681.2. This Program is designed to detect, prevent and mitigate Identity Theft in connection with the opening and maintenance of certain City accounts. For purposes of this Program, "Identity Theft" is considered to be "fraud committed using the identifying information of another person." The accounts ("Accounts") addressed by the Program are defined as:

1. An account the City offers or maintains primarily for personal, family or household purposes, that involves multiple payments or transactions; and
2. Any other account the City offers or maintains for which there is a reasonably foreseeable risk to customers or to the safety and soundness of the City from Identity Theft.

This Program was developed with oversight and approval of the City Council and City Administrator. After consideration of the size and complexity of the City's operations and account systems, and the nature and scope of the City's activities, the City Council and City Administrator determined that this Program was appropriate for the City of Columbus, Kansas, and therefore approved this Program on November 02, 2009, by Resolution Number 395.

## II. IDENTIFICATION OF RED FLAGS

A "Red Flag" is a pattern, practice or specific activity that indicates the possible existence of identity theft. In order to identify relevant Red Flags, the City considered the types of Accounts that it offers and maintains, the methods it provides to open its Accounts, the methods it provides to access its Accounts, and its previous experiences with identity theft. The City identifies the following Red Flags in each of the listed categories:

### A. Notifications and Warnings from Consumer Reporting Agencies

Possible Red Flags for this category include:

- 1) Receiving a report or notice from a consumer reporting agency of a credit freeze;
- 2) Receiving a report of fraud with a consumer report; and
- 3) Receiving indication from a consumer report of activity that is inconsistent with a customer's usual pattern or activity.

### B. Suspicious Documents

Possible Red Flags for this category include:

- 1) Receiving documents that are provided for identification that appear to be forged or altered;
- 2) Receiving documentation on which a person's photograph or physical description is not consistent with the person presenting the documentation;
- 3) Receiving other documentation with information that is not consistent with existing customer information (such as if a person's signature on a check appears forged); and
- 4) Receiving an application for service that appears to have been altered or forged.

C. Suspicious Personal Identifying Information.

Possible Red Flags for this category include:

- 1) A person's identifying information is inconsistent with other sources of information (such as an address not matching an address on a consumer report or a SSN that was never issued);
- 2) A person's identifying information is inconsistent with other information the customer provides (such as inconsistent SSNs or birth dates);
- 3) A person's identifying information is the same as shown on other applications found to be fraudulent;
- 4) A person's identifying information is consistent with fraudulent activity (such as an invalid phone number or fictitious billing address);
- 5) A person's SSN is the same as another customer's SSN;
- 6) A person's address or phone number is the same as that of another person;
- 7) A person fails to provide complete personal identifying information on an application when reminded to do so; and
- 8) A person's identifying information is not consistent with the information that is on file for the customer.

D. Unusual Use Of or Suspicious Activity Related to an Account.

Possible Red Flags for the category include:

- 1) A change of address for an Account followed by a request to change the Account holder's name;
- 2) An account being used in a way that is not consistent with prior use (such as late or no payments when the Account has been timely in the past);
- 3) Mail sent to the Account holder is repeatedly returned as undeliverable;
- 4) The City receives notice that a customer is not receiving his paper statements; and
- 5) The City receives notice that an Account has unauthorized activity.

Based on discussions with City representatives, other Red Flags in this category may include:

- Breaches in a City's computer system;

- Unauthorized access to or use of customer Account information; and
- A City's plans to take steps with certain data it maintains that contains customer information (i.e. destroying computer files)

E. Notice Regarding Possible Identity Theft.

Possible Red Flags for this category include:

- 1) The City receives notice from a customer, an identity theft victim, law enforcement or any other person that it has opened or is maintaining a fraudulent account for a person engaged in identity theft.

### **III. DETECTION OF RED FLAGS**

In order to detect any of the Red Flags identified above with the opening of a new Account, City personnel will take the following steps to obtain and verify the identity of the person opening the Account:

Steps can include:

- 1) Requiring certain identifying information such as name, date of birth, residential or business address, principal place of business for an entity, SSN, driver's license or other identification;
- 2) Verifying the customer's identity, such as by copying and reviewing driver's license or other identification card;
- 3) Reviewing documentation showing the existence of a business entity; and
- 4) Independently contacting the customer.

In order to detect any of the Red Flags identified above for an existing Account, City personnel will take the following steps to monitor transactions with an Account:

Steps can include:

- 1) Verifying the identification of customers if they request information (in person, via telephone, via facsimile, via email);
- 2) Verifying the validity of requests to change billing addresses; and
- 3) Verifying changes in banking information given for billing and payment purposes.

#### **IV. PREVENTING AND MITIGATING IDENTITY THEFT.**

In the event City personnel detect any identified Red Flags, such personnel shall take one or more of the following steps, depending on the degree of risk posed by the Red Flag:

Steps can include:

- 1) Continuing to monitor an Account for evidence of identity theft;
- 2) Contacting the customer;
- 3) Changing any passwords or other security devices that permit access to Accounts;
- 4) Reopening an Account with a new number;
- 5) Not opening a new Account;
- 6) Closing an existing Account;
- 7) Notifying law enforcement;
- 8) Determining that no response is warranted under the particular circumstances; or
- 9) Notifying the Program Administrator (as defined below) for determination of the appropriate step(s) to take.

In order to further prevent the likelihood of identity theft occurring with respect to City accounts, the City will take the following steps with respect to its internal operating procedures:

- 1) Ensuring complete and secure destruction of paper documents and computer files containing customer information;
- 2) Ensuring that office computers are password protected and that computer screens lock after a set period of time; and
- 3) Requiring only the last 4 digits of SSNs on customer applications.

#### **V. UPDATING THE PROGRAM AND THE RED FLAGS**

This Program will be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect changes in risks to customers and the soundness of the City from identity theft. At least one time every year, during the first quarter (January through March) the City Administrator and/or the City Clerk will consider the City's experiences with identity theft situations, changes in identity theft methods, changes in identity theft detection and prevention methods, changes in types of accounts the City maintains and changes in the City's business arrangements with other entities. After considering these factors, the City Administrator and/or City Clerk will determine whether changes to the Program, including the listing of Red Flags, are warranted. If warranted, the City Administrator and/or City Clerk will present his/her/their recommended changes and the City Council will make a determination whether to accept, modify or reject those changes in the Program.

## **VI. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

### **A. Oversight**

The City's Program will be overseen by a Program Administrator. The Program Administrator shall be the City Administrator, or in his/her absence, the City Clerk.

The Program Administrator will be responsible for the Program's administration, for ensuring appropriate training of City staff on the Program; for reviewing any staff reports regarding the detection of Red Flags and the steps for preventing and mitigating identity theft; determining which steps of prevention and mitigation should be taken in particular circumstances; reviewing, and, if necessary, approving changes to the Program.

### **B. Staff Training and Reports**

City staff responsible for implementing the Program shall be trained either by or under the direction of the Program Administration the detection of Red Flags, and the responsive steps to be taken when a Red Flag is detected.

### **C. Service Provider Arrangements**

In the event the City engages a service provider to perform an activity in connection with one or more Accounts, the City will take the following steps to ensure the service provider performs its activity in accordance with reasonable policies and procedures designed to detect, prevent and mitigate the risk of identity theft.

These steps may include:

- 1) Requiring, by contract, that service providers have such policies and procedures in place;
- 2) Requiring, by contract, that service providers review the City's Program and report any Red Flags to the Program Administrator.