

Find Out Anything About Anyone

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# INTRODUCTION

You would be surprised at all of the information that is available on just about every individual in the world. You would be even more surprised to know that much of it is easily accessible—to you! From phone numbers to credit checks and criminal activity, there is a host of information that you can find in the interest of self-protection. It's all out there, waiting to be found; you just have to know how to find it. With the help of this eBook, you will.

Within the pages of this very informative book, you will learn about all of the different methods that you can use to find out anything you want to know about anyone. You will learn how to find telephone numbers and home addresses, marital status and date of birth on anyone. You will also find out all of the details involved in running a credit check or a background check. This book will also teach you how to use government records to your benefit.

No matter if you are dating a new guy and you want to make sure he is not hiding a wife and kids in the next town or if you are considering someone for an employment position in your organization, or perhaps you are simply wanting to find out what happened to your best friend from high school, or perhaps that old girlfriend you'd hoped never got over you. This book will get you started in the right direction.

This book is the best tool you will find to help you on your way to becoming a successful self-acting sleuth who is able to find out anything about anyone.

Now, read on and be amazed at all you find.

# 1

## GOOD CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? NO CREDIT?: RUN A CREDIT CHECK ON ANYONE

There are several reasons why you would want to run a credit check on someone such as if you are renting them a property or hiring them to do a job. Likewise, there are many privacy and legal reasons that make it difficult for an individual to obtain a copy of someone else's credit report, especially if you do not have that person's permission to do so. The Fair Credit Reporting Act specifies which circumstances allow a credit report to be obtained and who may obtain it.

### WHO CAN OBTAIN A CREDIT REPORT?

Credit report access is restricted to companies that have a specific need for the information and customers who request their own reports. If you have power of attorney, are the executor of someone's estate or have his or her permission, you may be able to obtain his or her credit report. In addition, you may obtain the credit report of your own children if they are minors.

Limitations on who is allowed to acquire another individual's credit report prevent the risks of identity theft, potential fraud and any other inappropriate uses. Anyone who acquires the credit report of another person under false pretenses will be substantially fined and possibly put in jail for a sentence of up to one year.

Only individuals or businesses that have a permissible purpose may access the credit report of another individual. The definition of "permissible purpose" can be found in Section 604 of the FCRA.

Here are some examples of purposes that may be deemed as permissible:

- A business transaction has been initiated by the consumer
- To determine eligibility for government benefits
- To determine eligibility for a certain license

- Insurance underwriting involving a consumer
- For a credit transaction that involves a consumer

## CREDIT CHECKS & JOB CANDIDATES

The federal law permits companies to obtain a modified version of the credit report of a potential employee. This is sometimes called a credit header and can be used for employment purposes. The primary reason you may want to obtain a credit report for someone before you hire him or her is to get some kind of an idea as to what kind of a person they might be. A credit report will give you an indication of each candidate's overall personal integrity by reporting how each applicant manages his or her own finances.

However, you cannot just request a credit report on someone and expect the credit bureaus to take your word that you are the potential employer of this individual who gave you permission to view a modified version of their credit report. No, you must have written consent proving you have such permission. This keeps any old Tom, Dick or Mary Jane from getting their hands on your credit report just by saying, "I am thinking about hiring this person, now give me a look at their personal file."

Therefore, it is a good idea to include a request for each job candidate's consent to obtain such information in the initial application for the job. If you do choose not to employ an individual based on the report, you are required to give that person a copy of the report you obtained and inform them of their right to challenge any of the information listed in the report. The use of these credit reports is limited by stringent rules in some states.

## CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES

There are three major credit-reporting agencies in the nation that handle the credit checks of individuals. These companies are TransUnion, Equifax and Experian.

- Equifax  
Equifax is a leader in the field of information solutions. They are one of the biggest sources for commercial and consumer data, in addition to proprietary technology and advanced analytics. Employers have been using Equifax for more than a century to hire employees who have the highest level of reliability and integrity. Equifax is located in Atlanta, Georgia and provides jobs to an estimated seven thousand people in

fifteen different countries all over Europe, North America and Latin America. They are members of Standard & Poor's 500 Index. The New York Stock Exchange symbol for Equifax is EFX.

- **Experian**  
Experian provides valuable information solutions to consumers and organizations. From Experian, you can obtain processing services, analytics, information and other decision-making solutions. Experian has a comprehensive understanding of people, economies and markets. Experian works to manage, find and develop relationships that will make your business more successful.
- **TransUnion**  
TransUnion has been catering to business owners and individuals for over thirty years, helping to deliver, gather and analyze critical information. TransUnion uses specialized market expertise combined with advanced analytics to give you the information solutions that you need to make the best decision in your situation.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

There are several reasons why you would want to run a credit check on someone. It is a common practice for applicants to lie on rental and job applications. A credit check is the best way to protect yourself or your business from any danger. You should not risk hiring someone or renting your property to them unless you have run a proper credit check to verify the individual's honesty and integrity.

A credit report will give you information on an individual's credit accounts, home liens, payment histories, bankruptcies and a financial overview. Property owners and business owners find credit reports to be an invaluable asset. If you are aware of a person's credit, you could save yourself a lot of stress, time and money.

In these crazy times that we find ourselves living in these days, you can never be too careful. People are all the time giving false information and hiding behind aliases and fake addresses. When it comes to the safety of your business or property, the peace of mind you get from a credit check is priceless.

## 2

# CRIMINAL MASTERMIND OR GOOD SAMARITAN?: RUN A BACKGROUND CHECK ON ANYONE

I bet you are curious as to just why anyone would need to run a background check on someone else. The primary reason is that doing business means that you must face risks and taking into account that just owning a business is a risk, preventing loss is critical to your success. Other reasons you may need to run a background check on someone include tenants of a rental property, a babysitter for your children or even your daughter's new boyfriend.

### PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

Renting out an apartment or rental house is a great way to make a steady supplemental income. However, it does have its downsides. When you do business with individuals, you must be careful because people are not always as trustworthy as they would like you to think they are. As a property owner, you have the obligation to protect your property, your family and any other people who may rent from you.

By running a background check on your tenants, you are protecting your family and other innocent people as well as your property. Before you rent your property out to anyone, it would definitely be worth your while to take advantage of the various kinds of screening processes that are at your disposal.

A background check on prospective tenants is vital before signing any rental agreements. You do not want to rent an apartment to a sex offender next to an apartment full of college-age girls or a family with young children. Just the same, you would not want to rent your house out to an individual who trashed the last three houses in which they lived. A social security background check can be useful in protecting you from renting your home out to someone who would eventually run out on the rent without paying



you.

For example, Simon and Dave both own rental properties. One day a couple, dressed in leather head to toe with seemingly their entire bodies pierced approaches Dave inquiring about his property. The same day a couple dressed in business suits and wielding matching cell phones approaches Simon.

Right away, Dave sets to work, going through the proper channels, does a background check on his potential tenants, only to find they have a clean record, and always pays their bills on time. Simon on the other hand, decides there is no way his couple could be anything less than wholesome and immediately rents them the home.

The leather-clad couple in Dave's house stayed for years, raising their family and always paying their rent on time or in advance. The wholesome-in-appearance couple who Simon entrusted his home to was gone before they paid the first month's rent and took with them the antique telephone Simon got from his great-aunt to add character to the home, the color television Simon left for young couples who may not yet have one of their own as well as every light fixture and telephone jack in the entire house. The carpet was stain and the pipes were busted. The couple never paid a single cent in rent, but they left Simon holding a \$3000 bill for damages.

Simon could have saved himself a world of trouble if he had of simply taken the time to run a quick background check on his tenants. If Simon had of did so, he would have found out that Ms. Smith flooded the first rental house she lived in and burned down the next and Mr. Smith, well he was not even a legal American.

If you own an apartment building or rental house, it is within your best interest to run proper background checks on all potential renters.

## PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN

When it comes to your children, you will take every measure possible to keep them safe. You should never entrust the care of your children to someone whom you have not properly researched by running a background check on him or her.

There are several resources available on the Internet for you to use in order to protect your children, which includes sources for criminal background checks. If someone you trust such as your aunt or loving mother-in-law is always available at your disposal to keep an eye on your children when you

cannot be with them, then you have no need to run a background check. Well, maybe on your mother-in-law.

Seriously, in the world we live in today, it is difficult to survive without babysitters, daycare centers, teacher and other childcare professionals. Fortunately, you can use a criminal background check and obtain peace of mind knowing that your children are safe in good hands.

It is hard to trust the care of your children to anyone without first running a background check. On the news, you hear about the babysitter who shook a baby to death, the sex offender who was molesting the children of the daycare center in their home or the teacher who talked to a child in a manner degrading to educators everywhere. You can only trust your gut so much and when the safety of your children is on the line, it is important to go the extra steps to make sure they are as safe as possible. Therefore, you should consider running a background check on anyone who is going to have regular ongoing contact with your children.

The resources that you will find on the Internet are helpful if your family is planning to move to a new town. Information on sex offenders is now listed online, so you will know if any of your new neighbors has a less than favorable past. Once you move, you will need to find babysitters and other people to take care of your children in your absence. Rest assured that your children are safe by running a background check before you leave them with anyone whom you do not personally know you can trust.

## CHECKING OUT THE NEW BEAU OR BELLE

So, your precious little angel is ready to dip her tiny toes into the harsh waters of the dating pool. The new guy she brings home may seem cute and polite, but you cannot know for sure. Or can you?

Who is this boy that you are going to trust to be with your baby girl for the next few hours? What kind of past does he have? Is he hiding anything from you, or even worse, from your daughter? Does he have a criminal past? Is he addicted to drugs or alcohol? Has he ever been arrested? Has he ever killed anyone? Your head swims with question after horrible question until you think you are just going to go crazy. You will not be able to rest until you find out more details on the man who is spending time with your daughter.

One way to find out the dirt on your little girl's new man is to use the services of a private investigator. Hiring someone to snoop on your daughter's new boyfriend may be easier than you imagine. All you have to do is crack open the old phonebook and pick out one. The private investigator

will do all of the work. The downfall to this method is it will probably cost you a great deal of money and could take weeks to produce any results.

Another method that you could try is running a government background check. All you have to do is call the local police department and ask if they have any records for someone with the same name as your daughter's new boyfriend. However, keep in mind that police records are not generally well maintained and may not be up-to-date. The station could have nothing in the database, but the new guy turns out to be a bank robber...it could happen.

Finally, online background services are a good source to check someone's past for skeletons. It will cost you a little money, but the results come fast and easy. It generally only takes about a minute for the records to become available to you, and then all you have to do is download or print the file. The cost for this service is usually less than \$50 and considering the results are instantaneous, that is not much to pay for the safety of your little girl.

Be careful because there are several background-checking services that are not legit. Beware of sites that do not offer you more than a phone number or address. These sites should be avoided.

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FIRST DATES

We have all heard the horror stories about girls who are kidnapped, raped, beaten or even killed by a man on her first date with him. Especially, with the growing popularity of online dating, running a background check on someone whom you have just met before going on a date with him or her.

It may in your best interest to know that the person you plan to be alone sitting across from in a dark restaurant has a criminal past. This is especially true if the offense was dangerous or violent. You are taking necessary steps to keep yourself safe by running a background check before you go out with someone whom you do not know all that well.

Luckily, the Internet makes running a background check virtually painless. All you need to know is the name of the person whom you are dating and the online background-checking service will do the rest. Within minutes, you will be able to access all of the information that you need in order to determine if you could be walking head first into a potentially dangerous situation with a potentially dangerous individual. It is definitely worth your while to take the time to do a little research to find out exactly who the person sitting across from you really is as opposed to whom they say they are when you first meet.

## GOVERNMENT BACKGROUND CHECKS

If you have ever applied for employment with the federal government, then you are more than likely familiar with government background checks. Actually, it is required by law to submit to a government background check before you can accept any position in government employment. This is because it makes it easier for the government to narrow down job candidates based on the information that is obtained through government background checks.

Government background checks are important because they ensure that the government only hires the most qualified individuals to fill their most important positions. Government background checks also give those employed by the government peace of mind once hired.

## ANYONE I INCLUDES YOU

There is no doubt the value of the information that can be found on someone's criminal record. However, it is not always easy to know exactly what your record says about you. For example, if you take steps to have an offense removed from your record, you need to make sure that this was in fact done. It is important that your record be up-to-date and accurate.

It is not a good idea to phone the police department and ask for a copy of your criminal record, especially if your only concern is a few parking tickets. Thanks to the World Wide Web, your own criminal record is just a click or two away.

Be sure to check statistics such as date of birth to ensure you have accessed the correct records. You should be able to get a report showing any criminal acts that are listed on your permanent record.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

It does not matter if you are looking to protect your property, your business, your children or yourself, a background check can save you a lot of time,

money and troubles.

If you own an apartment building or any other type of rental housing, you should make it regular practice to run a background check on any potential tenant before signing the papers and handing over the keys. Although you may have to pay a little to run a proper background check, the information you obtain could end up saving you a lot in the long run.

If you own a business, it is in your best interest to know who your employees are before you hire them. If a job candidate is late on their rent every month and always maxes out their credit cards, you probably do not want them in charge of your business matters.

If you have children and work out of your home, more than likely you require the services of some kind of childcare provider. It is a good idea to know who is watching over your children when you cannot be there with them. A simple background check could save your child from potential physical or emotional harm.

Background checks are ideal for keeping you, your family and your business safe from any malicious characters who mean to bring you harm and devastation.

# 3

## UNCLE SAM IS IN THE KNOW: OBTAIN INFORMATION ON ANYONE THROUGH GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Government records are kept public to allow citizens to keep track of their government and ensure democracy in society. The challenge that the policymakers face is finding balance between what the public has a right to view and what is kept protected on the grounds of a person's privacy rights.

Just about every major event in your life is recorded in a government file somewhere. Right after your birth, you were issued a birth certificate. When you get old enough to drive, you obtain a drivers license. You get a new government document each time you buy a house, get married, get divorced, or file a lawsuit. Any of the records for these events are public domain and easily available to others.

### PUBLIC RECORDS

Public records are, well, public. There are not many restrictions on the releasing of such information. For instance, information listed in public records is often obtained for use by marketers. Attorneys, private investigator, law enforcement personnel and any other government agencies can also access public records. Actually, with the advances in today's technology, more and more public records are becoming computerized and anyone who has a computer with Internet service can easily obtain enough information to compile a detailed profile on anyone.

#### DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FILE

Here is a list of some of the information that is listed in your driver's license with the Department of Motor Vehicles:

- Drivers license number

- Name
- Home address and mailing address, if different
- Date of birth
- Social security number
- Physical description
- Any failures to appear in court
- Any unpaid traffic fines
- Current license status
- All major traffic convictions occurring within the last seven years
- All minor traffic convictions occurring within the past three years

Your vehicle registration file may include:

- Vehicle owner's name
- Vehicle owner's residential and mailing address, if different
- Make, model and year of the vehicle
- Year vehicle was purchased by the current owner and the names and addresses of all previous owners within the last three years
- Vehicle identification number
- License plate number
- If the vehicle has not been paid for in full, the name of any lien-holders

Insurance companies, employers, private investigators and lawyers regularly access DMV files. Until 1990, DMV records were sold to marketers for advertising purposes.

Some portions of your file are kept confidential, such as your social security number, home address and medical information. However, in some instances your home address will be released to attorneys, banks, process servers and insurance companies. Casual requesters may also obtain a copy of this information by applying at the DMV with an explanation of purpose and potential use. You would then be notified and have the opportunity to object to the information's release. Your social security number may be used for collecting government fines, tracking down "dead-beat" parents and tax administration purposes.

## VOTING RECORDS

When you vote, the records are kept at the Registrar of Voters office or County Clerk's office and the Secretary of State office. These records are available for political/election purposes, scholarly uses, governmental uses or journalistic purposes. A request must be filed with the Secretary of State or the elections office and certify a purpose for obtaining the records.

There are some states who offer a program similar to California's Safe at Home program, which provides address protection and confidentiality for anyone needing to keep their home address classified for reasons of personal safety. Victims of stalking or domestic violence, abortion clinic employees and anyone else whose safety may be at risk are protected under these programs.

The following states are believed to have programs to protect the home address of individuals with serious safety concerns:

- Florida
- Indiana
- Massachusetts
- Nevada
- New Jersey
- Oklahoma
- Vermont
- Illinois
- Maine
- Nebraska
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina
- Rhode Island
- Washington

There may be other states with similar programs, check with your local government office if you need address protection.

## BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Your birth certificate is kept on record in the county in which you were born as well as the State Vital Records office. These records generally list the child's name, time and date of birth, the hospital where the child was born, the city in which the child was born, name of the parents, the name of the delivery doctor and several different signatures. These records are public and any providing proper identifying information may order a copy. The records kept at the county office may be kept confidential and require a court order to view. Policies differ from county to county.

## MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

Typically, when someone gets married, a marriage certificate is filed at the County Clerk's office as well as at the State Vital Records office. An index containing the names of the bride and groom, the county where the license was issued as well as the date the marriage was officiated. You may be able



to file for a confidential certificate, which is not put in the index and made public. A confidential marriage certificate is only available to the groom, the bride or as ordered by the courts.

## DEATH CERTIFICATE

Death Certificates are also open to the public. These records are generally kept on file at the County Clerk's office of the county where death occurred. These records are also maintained at the State Registrar's office. A death certificate index containing the deceased's name, where the death took place, the date of death as well as the social security number of the deceased.

## PROPERTY RECORDS

Also open for public view are property records. When someone buys a home or some other type of real estate, a transaction record is filed at the County Recorder's office as well as the County Assessor's office. The Recorder, Tax Collector and/or Assessor maintain these files, which contain the name of the current owner, the name and address of the previous owner, the property location, date of sale, property description as well as the estimated value of the property holding. You can access these files via the Internet through information brokers or county government agencies.

## COURT RECORDS

All court records, with the exception of any involving one or more juveniles, are typically open to the public. Small claims, superior and municipal court records are filed in the office of the County Clerk, which maintains an index or criminal and civil court cases filed in alphabetical order according to the name of involved parties. You can find case files listed in the name of the plaintiff or in the name of the defendant. These files usually contain an initial complaint, an answer from the defendant and motions made on the case. These case files can also feature exhibits and evidence that were utilized during court proceedings.

The parties involved may ask the judge to seal some parts of the case file, making such sections no longer available to the public. Probation reports, psychiatric information and medical information in criminal cases are not available in the public version of the files.

## DIVORCE RECORD

Records of divorce are generally considered court files and thus open to the public. These records are available at the office of the Superior Court Clerk in the county where the divorce took place.

## ARREST RECORD

All arrest records are open for public viewing. These files include information in detail on the person whom was arrested, the incident that lead to the arrest as well as the victim. These files may be closed if the safety of the parties involved or an ongoing investigation is at risk. Records may also be sealed if the person arrested was found to be innocent on all charges, allowing the individual to deny arrest.

## POSTAL INFORMATION

Information on postal addresses is not public record via the US Post Office. Change of address information is available to several people. A form for change of address contains the information that is provided for the use of others. When the form is filled out, the Post Office handles the information under the assumption that responsibility has been taken to read all warnings about the consent to release the information listed. If someone moves and completes USPS Form 3575 Change of Address, the information is sold to credit bureaus, direct mail companies and mailing list collectors.

Change of Address forms are available at the local post office to anyone who presents a court order or subpoena, a government official or law enforcement official with authorized purpose or anyone certified to serve legal documentation. The individuals new address information will be available to anyone who sends first class mail to the old address for a period of up to one year. This information may not be released if a restraining order or court order is obtained and it is presented to the Postal Service in cases of threatening situations.

## CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Some of the records that the government has on file are kept confidential. Here are some government records that you may not be able to access about other people due to confidentiality:

- Social welfare information
- Tax Information
- School records

- Public library records
- Criminal history information

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

If you need to find out information on someone, public government records is the best place to start. The government keeps records on every marriage, divorce, birth, criminal incident, death, as well as information on family history, business records, driving records, immigration records, telephone directories and other relevant data.

One way to use government files to your benefit is through the services of a private investigator. Although this option can be expensive, a private investigator will be able to obtain information that is not readily available to the average citizen.

Public records can be viewed at certain government agencies such as courts, schools, churches and trade associations, for example. This option will cost you a lot of time in addition to a lot of money. Some facilities may not be as cooperative as others in releasing information.

Information on individuals is available online and easy to access for information on potential employees, potential renters or childcare providers. You can obtain an abundance of information on your own or you can enlist help for a small fee from one of the many search services, which can collect quite a lot of information in a short amount of time. You will also save time by visiting government agencies online.

No matter the method you choose for your investigation, the information is available through government agencies to help you find out anything about anyone.

## 4

# GETTING DIGITS: FIND A TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR ANYONE

In this day and age, it would be hard to find someone who does not have at least one telephone number. In fact, these days with all of the cell phones, work phones, etc. most people have two or more telephone numbers. You may be surprised at how much you can find out about a person with just a telephone number.

Reverse telephone number searches for both cellular and landline telephones can be used to uncover hordes of information about an individual. A standard reverse phone number look up can be used with a landline number to reveal public domain information. This is the same information you would find in a standard print directory, such as name and address. Cellular telephone numbers are not considered public, but you can usually get the information that you seek for a small fee.

When using cell phone reverse lookup, you will be able to access more than a simple name and address. Actually, you will also discover in which city the cell phone is registered and under which character the owner has a contract. Some sites on the Internet even provide a map to allow you to see the address where the cell phone may be located. In fact, you can enter your address and receive driving directions right to the front door of the address associated with the cell phone registration.

A simple telephone number can provide you with most of the information you need to find out anything about anyone, but how do you find someone's telephone number to get started?

## GOOGLE PHONE NUMBER SEARCH

Google features a huge telephone directory. The Google index is one of the biggest on the entire World Wide Web. You can use the Google phonebook to locate a telephone number or address (currently US only) simply by typing one of these combinations in the Google Search box:

- phonebook: first name, last name, city
- phonebook: first name, last name, state
- phonebook: first name, last name, area code
- phonebook: first name, last name, zip code
- phonebook: phone number with area code
- phonebook: last name, city, state

To specify between business and residential numbers, simply type "bphonebook:" for businesses and "rphonebook:" for residential numbers. In addition when searching, you may also use the first initial in place of a first name to obtain the information you seek.

## YAHOO! PEOPLE SEARCH

It is possible to find some information using the standard Yahoo! Search, but you will probably do better with the Yahoo! People Search. Here you will find specialized searches for news, local information, images and more of the same features that you will find on other search engines as well as a section to easily search for people.

You will find several useful people searching options available on Yahoo! People Search. The first feature you will want to try is the phone number search. If the individual you seek has a Yahoo! account, as many people do, you will be able to locate a phone number for them rather quickly. You will also be able to find telephone numbers through major US landline listings with this tool. The more information you can provide in your search criteria the better chances you have of finding the person whom you seek to find.

## MYSPACE

If you are looking for someone's telephone number, but are uncertain of their current location, you may be able to locate them on the major social networking site MySpace.

MySpace is one of the most popular social networking sites on the Internet today. The odds that the person you seek has an account on this site. Here is the easiest way to find a telephone number and contact information for someone using MySpace:

- If you already have an account of your own with MySpace, you will

find navigating the people search tools much more accessible. If you do not have a current account, you may wish to sign up before you begin your search.

- Once you are logged on to MySpace, enter the full name of the person you are looking for in the search bar. You will be able to search for people by email address, school or similar careers and personal interests.
- In some cases, if you find the person you are looking for you will not immediately be able to access their information because they may require you to be a confirmed "friend" to access their profile. If so, you can request the person add you to their list of friends.
- Once you are able to access the profile, personal information such as telephone numbers, email addresses, etc. is usually listed on that page.
- If no contact information is listed, you should be able to send the person a message via the MySpace messaging tool to request the information directly from the person you wish to contact.

Finding a telephone number on MySpace is not an extremely difficult task. In fact, you may even find that you enjoy the service and have fun finding more people.

## FACEBOOK

At one time, college students were the only people who used Facebook. You had to have a verified college email address to become a member. In an effort to keep up with MySpace, this site is now open to anyone who would like to sign up for a membership. Facebook is a great place to quickly find a telephone number and contact information for anyone.

Just as with MySpace, some members of Facebook require you to be "friends" with Facebook accounts to access his or her telephone number and other personal information.

Begin with a general Facebook search using the name of the person you seek. If you have additional information such as where they live or attended school, you will increase your chances of tracking someone down.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

If you are looking to find out information about someone, you will be able to access an abundance of information; the trick is tracking down the phone number.

The Internet is the best place to find out information on anyone, especially if it is a phone number you seek. Search engines will help you get started in your search. Social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook are ideal venues for finding information such as phone numbers and addresses for just about anyone.

Start with the basics like telephone directories, either print or online. Then you can dig deeper and deeper by using searching services to help you in your search. These services may cost a small fee, but usually find results incredibly faster than you could on your own.

With the help of the Internet, you will find your quest to find out anything about anyone getting easier and easier each step of the way.

# 5

## I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE, I HAVE SEEN WHERE YOU SLEEP: FIND AN ADDRESS FOR ANYONE

If you know a person's home address, you will be able to uncover an abundance of personal information. Finding an address, especially with the great advances in today's technology, is almost as easy as using a telephone book. You should be able to find anyone's address in much the same way as you would find a telephone number for someone as discussed in the previous chapter.

### FIND AN ADDRESS WITH REVERSE PHONE SEARCH

Reverse phone search has been around for quite some time, growing in popularity with each passing day as more and more people are becoming aware of the power it possesses. Reverse phone search can help you find an address for anyone, simply by using his or her telephone number. Reverse phone search is one of the best venues available for finding an address for anyone.

Reverse phone search is an easy, accurate and fast way to find someone's address when all you have is a telephone number. It only takes a couple of seconds to conduct the search and is as easy as using a standard search engine. Reverse phone search will provide you with up-to-date information using numbers for landlines, cell phones and even unlisted numbers. Service for landline reverse lookup is usually free, however, unlisted and cell phone reverse lookup may require a small fee.



## FINDING AN ADDRESS WITH JUST A CELL PHONE NUMBER

Over half of telephone numbers in circulation today are either cell phone numbers or unlisted telephone numbers. These records are not kept public and looking in the white pages will get you nowhere.

There are companies that pay for access to these records and compile them into a database where you can search for the information that you need. Since these companies have to pay to provide this information to you, you will more than likely have to pay a small fee to use their database. The fees are usually not too steep and the information you obtain is potentially priceless.

## FIND AN ADDRESS SEARCHING ONLINE

If you know the city, state and country in which the individual you seek lives, you could use the white pages available online to find the street address. Generally, individuals' phone number and other forms of communication can be found through public information resources such as Yahoo! or Google.

Online people searches is one of the best places to begin you search for an individual's home address. People search websites explore the Internet looking for all of the records that pertain to the keywords that you use in your search including a name and any other information that you may have already obtained about the person you seek. You can find a lot of valuable information about a person by using online reverse telephone number searches as well as the many social networking sites that are all over the Internet these days.

Do not get discouraged if you do not find the address you are looking for right away. There are several places online where you can search for people in addition to reverse telephone number searches and social networking sites such as personal websites and blogs.

Internet people search services will automatically search all of the online venues for you and compile all of the information that is found in a file that you will be able to purchase for as small fee. The time and effort that you will save using such a service is well worth the minuscule fee you will pay.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

Truly, how much you find out about someone will depend on the effort that you put forth into finding all of the information about anyone. If you have a phone number or a name, you have enough to find an address for anyone you wish.

As with most other personal information, the best place to find what you are looking for is the Internet. Thanks to social networking sites, reverse phone searches, standard search engines and people search services the Internet is quickly becoming the most useful tool for any respectable self-acting sleuth.

Finding information about someone is like building blocks, every bit of information that you find will open the door to even more information and before you know it, you will have all of the necessary tools to find out anything about anyone.

## 6

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY: FIND OUT ANYONE'S DATE OF BIRTH

Everybody loves a birthday party, but ask someone their date of birth and watch the looks you get. With the growing risk of identity theft, more and more people are holding back personal information to protect themselves.

Most people do not like their age to be known because they like to hold on to their youth as long as possible. Some people even outright lie about their date of birth for various reasons. It is inappropriate to just walk up to someone and ask his or her date of birth. You could ask around to find out someone's date of birth. A close friend or relative may be willing to offer such information. However, this method is not exactly reliable.

Hordes of information including a person's date of birth are filed as public record. As we discussed in previous chapters, public records are easy to access and can prove to be extremely valuable in building an individual's profile. The Internet is swimming with people search services ready to tell you anything you want to know about anyone all conveniently compiled into a single easy-to-read file. This service may cost a small fee, but the invaluable information you can obtain is well worth it, as is the time and effort you save having someone else do all the footwork.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO FIND SOMEONE'S ACTUAL DATE OF BIRTH

- Full Legal Name  
Prior to searching for someone's date of birth, you will need to know his or her full legal name. If you are looking for a female, you will need to know her maiden name. It will be hard to find the appropriate records and documentation if you do not have at least this much information in advance. You will find it very difficult to find someone if you do not know who it is you want to find.
- Estimated Birth Year

You can use known events in a person's life to estimate his or her age and make a guess at in which year they were born. For example, if you know someone has graduated from high school, but cannot legally purchase alcohol, then you can estimate the individual's age to be between 17 and 20 years of age. Likewise, if you know for a fact that someone has a child in college, they are probably over 25. Once you have a range to work with, your search will become easier.

- **Estimated Birthplace**  
If you know the country, state, county or city in which a person was born, you will have a good start to your search. Any one of these factors is better than none and the more information you have prior to searching for a date of birth, the easier it will be for you to find someone's actual date of birth. You may even find several people who know the person you are investigating who can provide you with information you may not find elsewhere.

## WHERE TO LOOK TO FIND SOMEONE'S DATE OF BIRTH

A person's date of birth is typically listed on any one of several public records. If you have a minimal amount of information prior to beginning your search for a date of birth, you will be able to use such records to find the information you seek.

- **Vital Records**  
Obviously, the best place to find a date of birth is a birth certificate. Birth certificates can be obtained from the county or state in which the individual was born according to birth year. You may also be able to find someone's date of birth on other various vital records such as a death certificate, marriage certificate or divorce records, which are also available in the state or county where the event occurred.
- **Church Records**  
Typically, you will be able to find someone's date of birth, or at least his or her age on a baptism, church marriage or christening record. With the age, you will be able to estimate a date of birth, which will bring you closer to your goal.
- **Newspapers**  
Many people put birth announcements in their local newspapers. From a birth announcement, you can obtain an exact date of birth, especially if you have already located an approximate date. You may be able to find the date of birth, or at least age of someone who has

passed from an obituary listing. You may also be able to find a photograph of the individual during your search.

- **Military Records**  
You can use Veteran's Benefit Records to locate someone's date of birth if he or she has served in the military or is married to someone who has served in the military. Pension files, draft registrations, service records, and discharge papers may all be beneficial to your search.
- **Family Resources**  
Family Bibles are a great source when you are trying to determine an individual's date of birth because many people use them to keep track of all of the births, marriages and deaths of several family members. If possible, ask family members of the person you are researching if you may have access to any family Bibles, birth announcements, passports, citizenship papers or driver's license that they have in their possession.
- **Genealogical societies**  
Genealogical societies located in the area where the individual is from originally, may be helpful in locating Bible records in instances where you cannot find a family Bible. Remember to search for both married and maiden names when you are looking through Bible records.
- **Bible records of the Daughters of the American Revolution**  
You may also find searching the transcribed Bible records of the Daughters of the American Revolution to be helpful. These records are available at the Daughters of the American Revolution library located in Washington, D.C., on microfilm available from the History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the Daughters of the American Revolution local chapters.
- **Census Records**  
Since the mid-1800s, the United States Census Bureau has recorded the age of every individual in the household as of their most recent birthday. To find the oldest census records, your best bet is probably bound census index or CD-ROM. When looking for birth dates on older records, be sure to look for names that are similar to the surname for which you are looking. This way, you may at least find the family of the person you seek. Many libraries have the census index on CD-ROM or you can purchase them online. Most libraries have bound indexes for censuses before 1880. These are usually listed alphabetical order by surname according to state. You do not need to know the county to find these records useful. Each index contains different information; some may list only a county while other will provide more information. You will also want to check different libraries to find different indexes.

- **Cemetery Records**  
You may be able to obtain information regarding a date of birth or approximate age from funeral home or tombstone records.
- **Immigration Records**  
A date of birth and other pertinent information may be obtained from port entry and exit records, passenger lists or citizenship papers.
- **Property Records**  
Homestead applications, mortgages, deeds and other property records can give you a clue as to the place and date of birth of an individual.
- **Probate Records**  
Estate records or a Last Will & Testament can provide you with information such as age at time of death, which will allow you to estimate a year of birth.
- **International Genealogical Index**  
The International Genealogical Index is an index of records of deceased individuals from all over the world. The Parish and Vital Records List published from the Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints contains records that have been extracted and are listed in the International Genealogical Index for every geographical time period and location. The list also shows records that are presently undergoing extraction. The majority of the names found in the International Genealogical Index are from records that date as far back as the sixteenth century. The index does not contain the names of all of the persons listed on the records nor does it list every person from the given country. You may access the International Genealogical Index through the Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The index may also be available through some libraries and genealogical societies.
- **Social Security Death Index**  
From the Social Security Death Index you can obtain a date of birth, date of death, social security number, state or county of residence, last known zip code and the zip code to where any benefit payments have been sent. Using the social security number obtained from the Social Security Index and a name, for less than \$10 you can get a copy of the original social security card application, which often contains a lot of useful information in addition to a date of birth. You can access the Social Security Death Index right from your home computer. You can also find copies in many of the larger libraries on CD-ROM. You may also be able to access the index via the National Archives. Many genealogy product resellers have the index available for purchase on CD-ROM.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

There are several ways to find someone's date of birth. Your success usually depends on the following factors:

- The age of the person whom you are researching is important because the older they are the more readily available their records will be.
- It is not as difficult to find someone who is a licensed professional.
- The more often someone borrows money, the easier it will be for you to find out his or her date of birth.
- The information you find will also depend on how much care the person has taken to keep their information private.

Professional information aggregators are an efficient method for locating an individual's date of birth, however, you must have a permissible use for such research. Additionally, even if you have a permissible use, some vendors still refuse to provide a date of birth except to certain parties such as a private investigator.

Some likely places to find a date of birth are:

- Divorce records
- Professional license records
- Voter registration records
- Vital records
- Motor vehicle records
- Methamphetamine registries
- Sex offender registries
- Criminal court records
- Correction records

As usual, the Internet is the best place to begin your search for a date of birth. From there, you will be able to find not only a date of birth, but also much more information to help you find out anything about anyone.

## 7

# WHY WAS I NOT INVITED?: FIND ANYONE'S MARITAL STATUS

To say that you have truly found out everything about someone, you must discover his or her marital status. If you are looking for someone's marital status, you have several options available at your disposal.

It may be somewhat difficult to find out someone's marital status if you do not have an idea as to when they may have been either married or divorced. If you have minimal information on the person you are researching, you should have no trouble discovering his or her marital status.

## WHERE TO LOOK FOR SOMEONE'S MARITAL STATUS

If you need to find out someone's marital status, you may find the following resources helpful:

- Bible records
- Church records
- Vital records
- Newspaper archives
- Military records

Any of these sources will prove to be valuable to your search once you have the minimal information to get you started off on the right foot.

## TIPS FOR DISCOVERING SOMEONE'S MARITAL STATUS



There are several reasons why you may need to know someone's marital status. The good news is that you can conduct an investigation and find the information that you seek right from the privacy of your very own home, thanks to the World Wide Web.

In the past, if you wanted to find out any type of personal information about an individual, you had to pay a lot of cash to hire a private investigator to tract down the information for you. This method is still an option today; however, you can save yourself a lot of time and money by finding the information you need on the Internet. You should be able to access an individual's marital status within a matter of minutes.

The Internet is also the best place to access the abundance of public records that are readily available. If used correctly, this public information will benefit you in many ways when you are trying to find out anything about anyone.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

You can find out anything you need to know about an individuals marital status, among other things, from the comfort of your home with the help of the Internet.

You are able to access information about marriages and divorces through public records that are available online. It typically takes less than one minute to run a discreet search to discover the marital status of anyone. Someone's marital status could be valuable information for many reasons.

You can hire a private investigator to find out all of the information that you need or you should be capable of finding the information you seek on your own via the World Wide Web.

## 8

# GOING BEYOND GOOGLE: A LOOK AT THE COOLEST SPY GADGETS

Spy gadgets are the best use of today's latest and greatest in miniature technology. If you want to find out anything about anyone, you need to stay up-to-date on all of the most recent spy gadgets that you can find, from spy cameras to lock picks and lots of other cool gadgets.

Hidden cameras, cool spy gadgets, spy cameras and other surveillance equipment and other advanced technology can prove to be quite handy when you are trying to find out as much information about an individual as you can.

Once you have been through all of the public records and search through every people finder site on the Internet, then you are ready to break out the coolest spy gadgets available to aid you in finding any information you seek to find.

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY

In the past, collecting evidence at a crime scene or spying on a suspect was like trying to locate the ever-elusive needle in the haystack. It was near impossible to view and observe anyone without alerting them immediately to your exact location.

Now days, this is no longer an issue. With the advances that have been made in technology, all you need is the right gadget and you are ready to find any information that you need on anyone. With just a little surfing on the Internet, you will be able to find an abundance of several different types of spy gadgets. You will be amazed at the amount of data that can be stored on some of the gadgets that you will find to help you in your investigation.

Spy gadgets are necessary to collect all of the evidence that you might need to get all of the information that you want on anyone you choose. Thanks to technology, many useful tools have been developed to help any investigator, professional or amateur, find exactly what they seek.

Spy gadgets are common among police officers and other government officials. These officials use spy gadget to track suspects in the dark or from long distances. Private investigators may use sophisticated spy gadgets to determine if a client's spouse is in fact having an extramarital affair. Many individuals purchase spy gadgets simply because they are intrigued by the technology.

You will find several places on the Internet where you are able to purchase some of today's most advanced spy gadgets. Spy gadgets may also be available at your local department store.

## SOME OF TODAY'S MOST POPULAR SPY GADGETS

Information can be collected discreetly and confidentially with the help of equipment referred to as spy gadgets. There are several stores today that sell highly functional spy gadgets at incredibly affordable prices. Spy gadgets come in many different shapes and sizes.

Some of the most popular spy gadgets that are available today are:

- Vehicle Tracking Devices
- Spy Cameras
- Phone Recorders
- Keyboard Loggers
- Bug Detectors

Spy gadgets are readily available from many different sources and continue to grow in stealth and functionality with each passing day.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD TAKE AWAY FROM THIS CHAPTER

Any good investigator knows that you cannot successfully find out everything you want to know about someone without the right equipment. With proper spy gadgets, you will be able to find out anything you need to know about anyone.

Spy gadgets can be used to track telephone calls. There are spy gadgets that record video, audio or both. The Internet and most department stores are filled with an abundance of the coolest spy gadgets that will greatly improve the results of any investigation when you seek to find out anything about anyone.

# CONCLUSION

Well now, there you have it. We have covered all of the different methods that you can use to find out any information you need on anyone.

By searching the sites that we mentioned in this book such as MySpace, Facebook, Yahoo! People Search and Google, you will be able to dig up an abundance of information on anyone you choose.

All that's left to do is to put it into action!

Now you are ready to try it for yourself. You will be surprised by how much personal information you will find floating around on the Internet and in the other areas that we covered. The tools that you learned about within the pages of this book will work together to provide you with all the information that you need to find out anything about anyone.