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Advice On Securing Your Most Important Documents

Many of us have a file for our important papers but I wonder if these pieces of paper are a lot more valuable than you might imagine. Most Americans have [U S passports](#), social security and drivers license cards, and birth certificates. When you realize the large part of your daily life played by these documents, you may find they require quite a degree of respect.

Lets start by discussing our passport. A [passport](#) is issued by the country of your citizenship and is proof of that citizenship as well as your identity. You must present documentation to prove your identity and birth or citizenship country in order to apply for one but once you have a passport, it will serve as a first class way to prove your identity and citizenship as it even provides a picture. Information included is name, place and date of birth and sex. While it is not true that a passport can get you into every foreign country, it does guarantee re-entry into the country that issued it. While it is a necessary part of international travel, it also provides an unquestioned source of identity verification.

Your social security card is a small card that features your social security number. Your social security number is a nine-digit long code that is unique to every citizen of the United States. While these numbers were originally used to track people for taxation purposes, they are now used as a form of identification. Many types of records are accessible by social security number, some of which are bank accounts, student credit accounts, and hospital records.

A drivers license is a document, often in the form of a plastic card, used to show that you are qualified and legally allowed to operate a motor vehicle. Different types of drivers licenses exist that permit you to operate different types of vehicles, from motor cycles to huge buses. Most Americans own a valid drivers license, establishing it as a credible form of identification. This identification can be used when buying tickets of any type, buying cigarettes, lottery tickets, or alcohol, or applying for a job. This license also indicates whether or not you are an organ donor, meaning you would donate your organs should you face an untimely death.

When a child is born, a hospital issues a birth certificate indicating all the important information pertaining to that childs birth. Birth certificates can be in a long or short form and will include a childs name, sex, place and time of birth as well as the names of parents. These are useful in proving identity, citizenship and relationships and are also required when applying for a passport. You might say this is the beginning of your important papers as it is required when getting almost all others including a marriage license, drivers license and social security card.

I hope you have seen that important documents are vital to lawful, successful living and affect almost every aspect of our lives. This knowledge will impress upon you the importance to keep these documents in a secure location where they will not be damaged or stolen. You may want to purchase the use of a safety deposit box at your local bank to insure the security of these papers. Stolen identity is a crime that is on the rise and can cause a persons credit to be totally destroyed if not worse. Take time to take precautions so you will ever have to worry about identity theft happening to you and your family.

A full service US passport expediting service, [US Passport Now](#) has years of experience in passport expedition, damaged passport replacement, passport name changes and more.

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