



The **ONE SOURCE** for all your credit reporting needs

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CRIMINAL BACK GROUND SEARCHES

Unfortunately, there is not one criminal search to cover all situations.

Here are the searches we offer:

Illinois State Police Name Search. This report should return all criminal convictions from state and county courts in Illinois. This report is on-line and the results will be returned in one to two business days. We have found that if the search is requested before noon, it is usually back the next day.

US Criminal Search. This report is on-line and the results will be returned immediately. Since not all states and counties are searched, the list of jurisdictions is returned. This report may return a picture of the individual, but not always.

County Manual Search. This report is on-line and will be returned in two to five days.

MVR Report. This is also on-line and will return the driving records of the individual. The results are returned immediately.

Finger Printing. We provide LiveScan (inkless) finger printing. Finger prints are submitted to the Illinois State Police. If there is a State law requiring FBI finger print searches, we can process those also. Finger print results are returned in two to five days.

COMPARISON REPORT

KCB Information is pleased to announce that with the May system update, the Comparison Report is now available.

Making this product available couldn't come at a better time, due to a new GSE's requirement. A new credit report will be required to be pulled at closing to ensure that the consumer's credit history has not changed significantly. The ability to compare the old and new credit reports in an automated fashion represents a significant time savings to your customers.

The report compares Credit Scores, Trade Lines, Public Records, Collections and inquiries. If there is a difference it shows what each report is returning.

The cost for the Comparison Report is \$2.00

TRANSUNION GETS NEW MAJORITY OWNER

Madison Dearborn Partners LLC, a Chicago-based private equity firm, is acquiring a majority 51% interest in credit reporting company, TransUnion LLC.

TransUnion "is a market leader in an industry that will continue to play a critical role in the global economy: helping businesses to better manage risk and improve decision-making, and consumers to understand and manage their credit," Tim Hurd, Madison Dearborn managing director, said in a statement.

The Pritzker family will keep about 49% ownership in TransUnion. Terms weren't disclosed.

TransUnion is the third-largest credit bureau, according to analysts. The largest, Experian, which has credit information on an estimated 300 million consumers, reported 2009 revenue of \$3.9 billion. No. 2 Equifax reported revenue of \$1.8 billion last year and information on more than 400 million credit holders worldwide. It has a market capitalization of \$4.2 billion.

Privately held TransUnion doesn't report results, but an industry analyst with Stephens Inc., Carter Malloy, estimated its annual revenue at more than \$1 billion. Applying a valuation similar to that of Experian and Equifax would imply TransUnion, which has information on 500 million people worldwide, is worth between \$2 billion and \$3 billion, a source told the Chicago Tribune. Private-equity firms such as Madison Dearborn have seen the debt markets open up wide, a change from 2008 and 2009.

TransUnion Chair Penny Pritzker, in a statement, said: "We look forward to partnering with the Madison Dearborn team to capitalize on the numerous growth opportunities before us."

The 11 heirs of Jay Pritzker, who died in 1999 after building a portfolio estimated at \$15 billion, reached an agreement in late 2001 to divest the family's assets by 2011.

In the most recent major divestiture, the Pritzkers took Hyatt Hotels Corp. public last November, raising \$950 million.

In March 2008, the family sold a majority stake in the Marmon Group to Berkshire Hathaway Inc. for \$4.5 billion. In 2006, the

family sold Conwood, a smokeless tobacco company, for \$3.5 billion.

Madison Dearborn's other noteworthy financial services investments include Nuveen Investments, CapitalSource and PayPal. (By Darren Waggoner, May 3, 2010, www.CollectionsandCreditRisk.com)

USE OF CREDIT SCORES IN HIRING STUDIED

Congress is examining employers' use of consumer credit history to make hiring decisions and insurers' use of them to set premiums, said Rep. Luis Gutierrez, an Illinois Democrat, reports Bloomberg News.

"Credit scores and reports are used by insurance companies to pick their customers and are used to exclude those most likely to file a claim," said Gutierrez, whose Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held a hearing Wednesday on the practice. "We are watching very closely and will take action if and when we find their practices out of line."

Nearly 50% of employers use credit reports in hiring decisions, according to the National Consumer Law Center. (5/18/10, www.collectionsrisk.com, PaymentsSource)

BANKRUPTCY FILINGS DROP IN APRIL

U.S. bankruptcy filings by consumers and businesses fell in April, but were still at the second-highest level since changes to the law in 2005 made it harder for individuals to seek protection from creditors.

Filings totaled almost 146,000 in April, according to data compiled by Automated Access to Court Electronic Records. March filings totaled an estimated 158,000. Based on the number of business days on the court calendar in each month, filings fell by 4% on a daily basis.

The record for bankruptcy filings was 2.1 million in 2005. About 630,000 sought protection from creditors in U.S. courts in the two weeks before changes to federal bankruptcy laws took effect in October of that year. Filings by individuals and businesses in 2009 jumped 32% over the previous year to 1.44 million.

Chapter 11 filings by companies seeking to reorganize or liquidate totaled 1,214 in April.



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Through the end of last month, Chapter 11 cases this year totaled 4,933. If that rate holds for the rest of the year, there will be about 3% fewer such cases filed in 2010 than in 2009. Including Chapter 7 liquidations, business bankruptcy filings totaled about 29,250 this year through April.

The states with the largest increases in average monthly filings over last year were Hawaii, California, Virginia and Vermont, according to Automated Access. Nevada, Tennessee, Georgia and Michigan had the most filings per capita. (www.CollectionsCreditRisk.com, 5-4-2010)

U.S. CONSUMER-DEBT DELINQUENCY RATES FALL: EQUIFAX

Fewer U.S. consumers are falling behind on their debt, prompting lenders to look again for ways to make their business grow.

Delinquency rates on mortgages, home equity loans and credit card bills fell in April for the third straight month, according to data that Equifax Inc. (EFX.N), one of the largest U.S. credit bureaus, provided exclusively to Reuters.

The data is based on Equifax' 200 million-plus files of U.S. consumers using credit.

"If you think about the entire U.S. population as a risk portfolio, it's safe to say that the portfolio is indeed improving," said Dann Adams, president of Equifax' U.S. Consumer Information Solutions.

The only credit product in which delinquency continues to rise is student loans, where 11.2 percent are late, up 0.7 percent from March and 3.5 percent from last year. "It's a tough labor market," Adams said. "It's difficult for many to start repaying those loans."

But in general, U.S. consumers are cutting their debt loads, Adams said. Total U.S. consumer debt is down by \$626.1 billion, or 5.4 percent, from its October 2008 peak of \$11.5 trillion. Debt has not been this low since August 2007.

Indeed, in the past year, fully a quarter of the population has not fallen behind on any payments, Adams said.

Equifax also said:

-- 6.4 percent of homeowners were 30 days

or more behind on their mortgages in April. That is still up 10.7 percent from a year ago but down 3.5 percent since March.

-- 1.9 percent of payments on bank-issued credit cards were late, down 6 percent from March and 17 percent from last year.

Credit limits on such cards have fallen \$947 billion from their peak, and there are 106 million fewer cards.

"Consumers continue to manage their spending and their debt very judiciously," Adams said. "Many are saving more. Consumers continue to refrain from taking on new debt. The ones that are taking on that new debt continue to be very judicious to be sure those payments are made on time."

The improvement in delinquency rates has inspired the lenders Equifax advises to search again for growth strategies.

"The extreme cautiousness is starting to diminish. They will gain more confidence as these delinquency trends continue to improve. It sets the stage for looser underwriting standards down the road," Adams said.

The big question, Adams said, is whether consumers will want to take on additional debt. "It's great that delinquencies are now in control but you want to grow the business," Adams said. (www.insidearm.com, 5-17-10, Reuters by Helen Chernikoff; Editing by Steve Orlofsky)

NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY RESEARCH CENTER MARCH 2010 BANKRUPTCY FILINGS REPORT

Bankruptcy filings in March 2010 rose to 150,000, up from 113,000 in February. Because March usually has one of the highest filing levels of the year, the significance of the increase is difficult to gauge. Still, it is clear by any measure that there was a substantial upturn in filings. For example, on a seasonally adjusted basis (accounting for the typical variation in filings through the course of the year), filings were up about 5% from February to March. Comparing filings this March to last March shows a 23% increase. For the first quarter of the year, aggregate filings are up 18% from a year ago.

The filings also reflect the continued prevalence of Chapter 7 (liquidation) filings; only 25% of the March filings sought relief under Chapter 13 (rehabilitation). The continuing decline in the share of Chapter 13

filings contrasts with the strong push by Congress in its 2005 bankruptcy legislation to encourage bankrupts to choose Chapter 13 rather than Chapter 7. As is typical, there was a substantial variation among the States in the prevalence of bankrupts seeking Chapter 13 relief. The States with the highest share of Chapter 13 filings remain concentrated in the South. For the first quarter of 2010, Louisiana's share was 62%, followed by Alabama and Texas (both over 50%), and then by South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, Arkansas, and Georgia. At the other end of the spectrum were States with relatively low Chapter 13 shares; Iowa, New Mexico, and Connecticut all had less than 10% of their filings under Chapter 13.

The filings also reflect the continued prevalence of Chapter 7 (liquidation) filings; only 29% of the filings this year sought relief under Chapter 13 (rehabilitation), down from a 31% share during the same period last year. The continuing decline in the share of Chapter 13 filings contrasts with the strong push by Congress in its 2005 bankruptcy legislation to encourage bankrupts to choose Chapter 13 rather than Chapter 7. As is typical, there was a substantial variation among the States in the prevalence of bankrupts seeking Chapter 13 relief. The States with the highest share of Chapter 13 filings were concentrated in the South. Louisiana's share was 68%, followed by Alabama, Texas, and South Carolina (all more than 50%). At the other end of the spectrum were States with relatively low Chapter 13 shares; New Mexico and Iowa, for example, had less than 10% of their filings under Chapter 13.

KCB INFO SERVICES HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm

KCB Information Services offers: Consumer credit reports, Collections Reports, Business Credit reports, Employment Credit reports, Residential Mortgage Credit Reports, Merged Credit Reports, Fannie Mae & Freddie Mac access, Criminal background checks, Tenant Screening Reports, Flood Zone Determination, Flood Life of Loan Certification and Identity Authentication.

KCB Information Services has served businesses since 1928 and serves Central Illinois for Experian and Equifax.

"I flew thousands of flights in the last forty-four years, but my entire career is now being judged by how I performed on one of them....We need to try to do the right thing every time, to perform at our best, because we never know which moment in our lives we'll be judged on." - Capt. Chesley Sullenberger - HIGHEST DUTY