

*Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America. This past week, the Santa Ana Police Department announced that hundreds of people have fallen victim to an identity theft scam. In Detroit, authorities cracked down on two cell phone stores accused of scamming \$2.2 million from cell phone companies. Nationwide, the number of victims rose to more than 685,000 in 2005. Federal agencies warn that consumers are especially vulnerable during the holiday season when stores are crowded and shoppers are distracted. According to the FTC Identity Theft Resource Center, victims on average paid \$1,400 and spent 600 hours to reclaim their credit and identity, while others spent years trying to erase the damage to their credit report.*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ACI Offers Free Identity Theft Kits

(San Diego, CA). November 2006. To prepare for the upcoming holiday shopping season, ACI Specialty Benefits Corporation, one of the nation's leading Employee Assistance Providers by *Business Insurance* and *Workforce Management* Magazines, is offering clients complimentary Identity Theft Kits to protect themselves from becoming victims of identity theft. As part of ACI's highly acclaimed Affinity product, the identity theft kits provide an abundance of resources to protect consumers from identity fraud, including valuable information on recognizing identity theft, how thieves can steal personal information, tips to protect yourself, how to minimize the risk of ID theft online and offline and what to do if you are a victim.

"The hectic holiday season presents an opportunity for thieves to prey on victims," said Dr. Ann Clark, CEO of ACI Specialty Benefits Corp. "Victims experience a tremendous violation that can take several months to correct and cause frustration, anger and stress. The Identity Theft kit is another example of ACI's commitment to provide proactive solutions for our clients to protect themselves and fight back."

The Identity Theft kits contain DVDs, textbooks, publications, a pool of resources and tools to protect and repair credit reports. Also included are step by step instructions, guides and contact numbers to report criminal activity. ACI offers individual and family counseling for the victim and value added solutions in the form of financial resources, consultations and referrals. The kits are complimentary to ACI's Affinity clients. As a holiday bonus, the general public may request a kit for \$9.99 to pay for shipping and handling.

### **About ACI**

ACI is an international Specialty Benefits Corporation specializing in Employee Assistance, Work/Life, Concierges and Wellness programs. In 2006, ACI ranked among the nation's Top Ten list of EAP providers by *Business Insurance* and *Workforce Management* magazine. Established in 1983, ACI grew to international prominence serving clients across the nation and around the world. For more information, please visit our website at [www.acieap.com](http://www.acieap.com) or call us at **1-800-932-0034**.

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