

Credit Repair: Real People, Real Results, Real Hope

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A simple question that unfortunately does not have an easy answer. Countless factors play into credit scoring. Financial habits, life events, and even extenuating circumstances all play a role in your credit score.

So, how can you reach the coveted 700+ summit? First, you need to understand how scores are calculated. Credit scoring might seem confusing to the uninitiated, but it can actually be boiled down to five simple categories:

- **Payment history (35 %)**
The most important factor. Indicates any late or missing payments.
- **Level of debt (30 %)**
The ratio of your credit balance vs available credit.
- **Age of credit (15 %)**
How long your accounts have been open.
- **Inquiries (10 %)**
The number of times you applied for credit in a 12-month period.
- **Types of credit (10 %)**
Lenders will look to see if you have experience with a diversity of credit (loans, credit cards, etc).

According to The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), it is your right to a fair and accurate credit profile. This means that federal law requires creditors to follow explicit rules when reporting personal information to credit bureaus. When they do not, or when they report inaccurately, you have the right to challenge negative credit report items.

Credit repair is a process to ensure your credit report fairly represents your consumer identity and use of credit. While this may sound fundamental — and accuracy should just be inherent to the system — due to the variability of scoring, credit reporting is not perfect. Mistakes, special circumstances, clerical errors, and even identity theft can all secretly plague consumers' credit standing without them ever knowing.

Herein lies the utility of professional credit repair: credit professionals are well-equipped in leveraging consumer laws to help you uncover negative items that might otherwise go undetected, and they are trained to craft challenge letters catered to your specific circumstances. Let us explore some real-world credit repair results within the context of a few common scenarios:

[Student Loans](#)

[Divorce](#)

[Medical Bills](#)

[Military Service](#)

[Identity Theft](#)

All of these life circumstances can have significant influence on your credit score. Read on to learn how each of these scenarios affect your score and learn about real life examples of how people overcame credit hardship with the help of professional credit repair from Lexington Law Firm.



Student Loans

All too often, recent graduates discover the pitfalls of student loans after it is too late.

While a student loan can be a first foray into big-ticket borrowing, it is also one of the most enduring debts that affect consumers' scores. A large principal amount, mixed with lending inexperience, is the perfect combination that makes student loans a preeminent credit threat. Take, for example, Neal's story.

When looking to buy a home, Neal discovered that old penalties — stemming from student loans — were still weighing down his score and inhibiting his homeownership goals. More than a decade out of school, Neal felt his past credit history and student loans were unfairly stigmatizing his borrowing capability. To unburden his credit report of outdated items, Neal sought out professional credit repair from Lexington Law Firm.

Credit repair helped Neal better understand the intricacies of student debt and remove outdated items. Negative items associated with this popular loan type can be overcome through Lexington Law Firm's credit repair efforts.





Divorce

Divorce is traumatic for a number of reasons. And, while finances might not be at the top of your mind in the midst of a breakup, divorce can have significant, lasting effects on your credit score, which must be taken into consideration. Half of marriages end in divorce, which means many Americans feel the effects it has on their credit.

Divorce acutely illustrates how a credit report can be accurate but still unfair. For example, after divorce, maybe an outstanding bill is delegated to your ex, but your name is still attached. If your ex is delinquent on payment your credit report is still put in jeopardy through no fault of your own.

Scenarios such as this can be remedied with the help of a credit repair professional. Credit repair professionals have the acumen to review your individual circumstances and pull relevant information from a divorce action.

This might include providing the bureaus and creditors information about who is responsible for outstanding debt and other financial obligations according to a divorce decree. This information can then be used to challenge negative credit items in the wake of a divorce.

A video thumbnail featuring a man in a suit and glasses, identified as John Heath, a Divorce Attorney. The video title is "HOW DIVORCE AFFECTS YOUR CREDIT | LEXINGTON LAW".

John Heath
Divorce Attorney

HOW DIVORCE AFFECTS YOUR CREDIT | LEXINGTON LAW



Medical Bills

Medical bills are a major expense for many Americans. Even those covered by health insurance still pay huge amounts out-of-pocket in the event of a medical emergency or ongoing treatment. One study found that **1.7 million Americans live in households that declared bankruptcy due to medical costs.**

Medical bills are a complicated financial issue because they are both unavoidable and very expensive. For example, many Americans face six-figure medical costs — brought on by an unexpected diagnosis or emergency — with no way to pay. Medical bill delinquency is a leading cause of credit damage and is usually brought on unexpectedly.

Current laws, new rulings, statute amendments, case law, and settlement agreements all have an impact on your consumer rights, but who has time to become an expert on medical laws overnight? Having a legal professional on your team during the credit repair process can alleviate that burden and help to make the process less stressful.

Credit lawyers are up-to-date on the ever-changing legal landscape of the healthcare industry. They can leverage their knowledge to dispute unfair credit items and help you get ahead of the lasting, negative effects of expensive medical costs.



HOW MEDICAL EXPENSES AFFECT CREDIT | LEXINGTON LAW



Military Service

When serving overseas, the last thing a service member needs to worry about is their credit score back home.

Serving in the military is an all-consuming, demanding job, and yet, finances cannot simply be put on hold when abroad. Since they go long periods of time without internet access, service members will normally entrust bill payments to a friend or family member. But, what happens if there is a lapse in payment? How does accidental delinquency affect active military personnel and veterans?

Security clearance can be restricted in the event of delinquent debt or unpaid taxes. The United States Office of Personnel Management can prevent service member promotion, suggest discharge, and even suspend military benefits if a service member's finances are not in order.

This was the case for David who served in the Marine Corps for 10 years. Upon returning to his wife and two kids, David was surprised to find his military benefits were inaccessible due to a previous bankruptcy.

David used professional credit repair to contend with his unique circumstance and fought to receive the military benefits owed to him. Lawyers familiar with the legal nuances of military service are able to draft challenge letters specially catered to the needs of veterans.





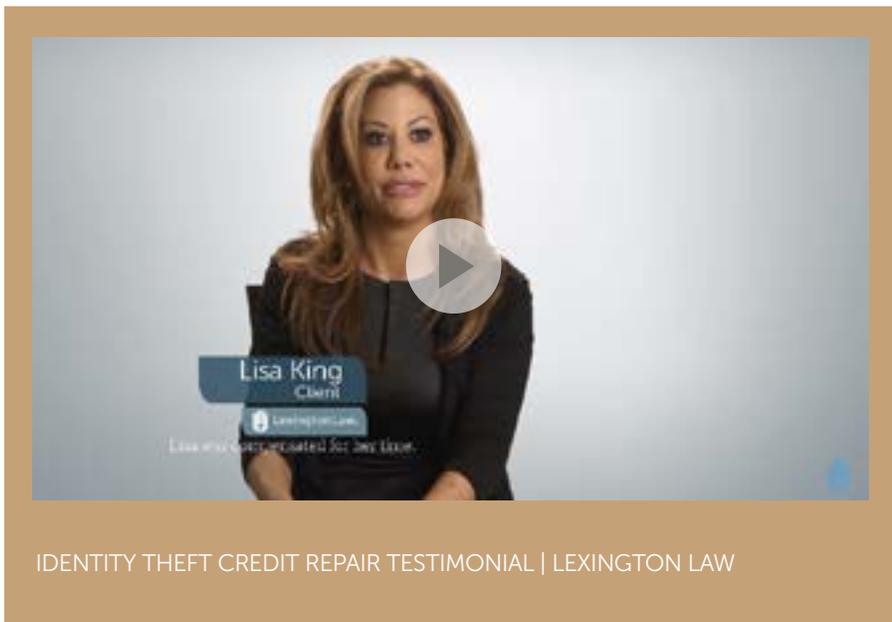
Identity Theft

Identity theft is one of the most common consumer crimes in America and affects over 15 million people a year. A [CNBC report](#) found that identity theft causes consumers over \$16 billion in damages a year.

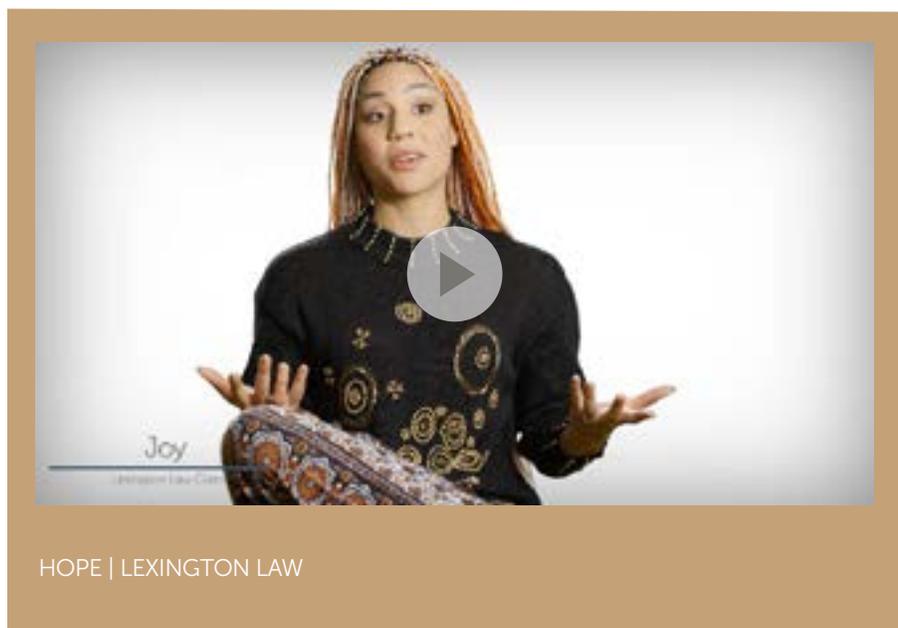
Your credit report is a history of all lending done under your name — whether legitimate or not. This is why it is important to keep a close eye on your credit report and be on the lookout for any unusual activity such as unfamiliar inquiries or new accounts. If you see a surprising and significant change in your score then you might be a victim of identity theft.

Not only does identity theft violate your sense of security, but it can also have a lasting, negative impact on your credit if not handled properly. When identity theft goes unchecked, crooks can negatively impact your credit score in many ways. They can rack up debt under your name, make unauthorized purchases, open new accounts, and do other things using your identity fraudulently.

Lisa did the right thing — upon discovering her identity had been stolen, she went online and found a [credit repair company](#) to help her negate the negative effects of identity theft. As a Lexington Law client, Lisa was able to partner with Lexington to remove the majority of the ID theft related items from her credit report.



Lexington Law Firm is a pioneer in the **credit repair industry** which has helped clients — including those you have read about here — improve their understanding of credit for over a decade. Lexington Law has helped hundreds of thousands of clients work to repair their credit and improve their lives.



If you would like a free personalized credit consultation, contact Lexington Law.

1-833-781-2000

