

## Fraud Risks: Lost or Stolen Employee Credentials

Employee Credentials (badges/ID cards) are essential for workplace security, granting access to restricted areas and sensitive information. However, when a badge is lost or stolen, it can become a serious security risk. Unauthorized individuals may use it to enter secure locations, commit fraud, or steal valuable university assets. By staying vigilant, employees play a crucial role in maintaining a secure work environment.

Risks associated with lost or stolen employee credentials are highlighted below.

### Identity Theft

The badge could be used to impersonate the employee, gaining access to sensitive information or potentially systems, allowing unauthorized individuals to gather confidential university data.

### Physical Theft

Unauthorized individuals can use the badge to enter restricted areas such as labs and research facilities and steal equipment, laptops, inventory, items made utilizing university equipment, or personal belongings.

### Unauthorized Access

Someone could use the badge to enter restricted areas, potentially leading to security breaches.

### Stalking & Harassment

If the badge includes personal details, it could be used to track or harass the employee.

### Financial Theft

If the badge grants access to organizational accounts or payment systems, it could be used to authorize fraudulent transactions.

### Service Theft

A fraudster might use the badge to access benefits, such as meals, transportation, or memberships.

### Where can I find more information?


 [USF Regulation 5.001](#): Fraud Prevention and Financial Detection

 USF Office of Internal Audit website: <https://www.usf.edu/audit/>

### How can I report potential fraud or abuse?

 Notify your supervisor

 Contact the USF Office of Internal Audit at (813) 974-2705

 Report activities anonymously through the [EthicsPoint](#) hotline at (866) 974-8411