## Credit Reporting Resources – Q2 2025

Checking on your personal credit report and credit scores is always important but especially if you are preparing for a mortgage loan.

Below are some good resources to put you in the best position prior to speaking with your loan officer –

- Free Credit Reports: Consumers can review their personal credit reports weekly for *free* at: <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>
- **Correct Credit Reporting Errors**: Learn how to file a dispute here: https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/disputing-errors-your-credit-reports or here: https://www.consumerfinance.gov/ask-cfpb/how-do-i-dispute-an-error-on-mycredit-report-en-314/
- Avoid Unwanted Solicitations (Pre-Screen and Trigger Leads): Consumers can opt-out by visiting these sites:
  - <u>https://www.optoutprescreen.com/</u> (for mail)
  - <u>www.donotcall.gov</u> (for phone)
- Avoid Credit Repair Dangers: Check out this page from the Federal Trade Commission here: <u>https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/topics/consumer-finance/debt-relief-credit-repair-scams</u>
- **If you need counseling,** check here for a HUD-certified counselor in your area: <u>https://hudgov-answers.force.com/housingcounseling/s/?language=en\_US</u>
- **Credit File Security:** To place a fraud alert or add or remove a freeze or lock visit these sites. Remember to remove a freeze or lock before pulling credit.
  - Contact **each** of the <u>three credit bureaus</u> Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion.
  - Additional information from the Federal Trade Commission: https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs
- Learn about FICO<sup>®</sup> Scores: <u>www.myfico.com</u> or <u>www.ficoscore.com/education</u>.
- Learn about Vantage Scores: <u>https://vantagescore.com/consumers/</u>