



For Immediate Release

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DATA PRIVACY DAY

RICHMOND, VA The National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) would like to remind you to protect your identity while conducting business on the internet.

Data Privacy Day is an international holiday that has been in existence since 2009 that is celebrated on January 28 in the United States, Canada, and 27 European countries. The holiday was established to raise awareness of and promote data privacy. Based on recent studies, over 70 percent of American homes have a computer and over 80 percent of Americans have access to the Internet. With numbers like that, it is important to keep your sensitive information private. Data Privacy Day is a day that should serve as a reminder for Internet users to exercise caution online and to stay vigilant in protecting personal information.

NW3C offers the following advice to help keep your data protected:

1. Take advantage of firewalls and antivirus protection.
2. Keep vital information in a safe and secure place. Just as you would not leave your banking information and passwords on your physical desk, you should not leave vital information available on your computer desktop.
3. Use strong passwords, don't share your passwords with others and use different passwords for different items.
4. Many free wifi hotspots are not secure. You are a lot safer on a secure site that is labeled "https".
5. Don't give out too much personal information on social sites.

If you feel like you have been the victim of an Internet crime, please contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center at IC3.gov.

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ABOUT NW3C

Funded primarily by the Department of Justice through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, NW3C has been a leader in the fight against economic and high-tech crime for more than 30 years. For more information, please visit www.nw3c.org.