



Cybersecurity

Information Consumers Need to Know...

You work hard to make ends meet and save. But without protecting your assets, you could be at risk of loss. While trusted businesses and organizations are trying to secure your information, you can also work to protect your information. By taking a few simple steps, you can better protect your personal and financial data online and at home.

Here are 6 simple actions to better protect your personal data and money online and at home:

- 1. Keep Your Secrets Safe:** Do not respond to emails or phone calls that request your personal information, and be careful about sharing personal information on social media
- 2. Passwords:** create "strong passwords" for your online transactions: at least 8 characters in length with a mixture of letters, numbers, and symbols.
 - a.** Try not to use words found in the dictionary, and use different user names and passwords for your banking and shopping websites
 - b.** Secure your smart phone and computer with a screen lock and/or "power-on" password
- 3. Software:** Download and install software only from websites you know and trust, and use security software on your computer and make sure it updates automatically
- 4. Investigate:** Check out the companies where you shop online to ensure security in your transactions, and review your financial and shopping statements for any suspicious activity. Check your credit report annually at www.annualcreditreport.com.
- 5. Encryption:** Give personal information only over encrypted websites – look for "https" addresses.
- 6. Public Access:** Avoid using unsecured, public wireless access points, such as those found in airports, coffee shops, and hotels.

Report Identity Theft ASAP!

- PA Attorney General, Bureau of Consumer Protection 1.800.441.2555
- Federal Trade Commission 1.877.438.4338
- Report fraudulent use of your social security card at 1.800.269.0271
- Notify the US Postal Inspection of mail crimes 1.877.876.2455
- Contact your bank about lost/stolen ATM cards/checks, or compromised passwords
- Contact your local police department to file a report
- Monitor your credit by calling AnnualCreditReport.com at 1.877.322.8228

This is what you can do today...



Connect



Learn



Contact

- **Connect** with us on Facebook and Twitter
- **Learn** more on our website: dobs.pa.gov
- **Contact** us if you have questions at **1.800.PA.BANKS**

