

<b>WHY IT MATTERS</b>		<h1 style="font-size: 48px; margin: 0;">B</h1> <h2 style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">IDENTITY</h2>
<p>Misuse of account credentials and personal information can cause significant personal, professional, and financial harm. Protecting your Identity involves managing multiple account credentials (IDs, usernames, e-mail addresses), using effective authentication codes (PINs, passwords, biometrics) and preventing the disclosure of credentials, authentication codes, and personal information.</p> <p>Recognizing the need to protect your Identity and increasing your awareness of identity theft resources will help better protect your credentials and personal information. Managing credentials effectively and using strong authentication will reduce the risk of accounts being “stolen” or compromised.</p>		
<b>WHAT TO KNOW</b>		
<p>An online identity is the information or actions that can be associated with an individual through their use of account credentials or personal information. Your identity has value, as do each of your online identities. For example, when your identity connects with your bank or a brokerage account, it may have clear monetary value. Simply by being an active Internet user you may find that you have accumulated multiple online accounts and identities.</p>		
<p>“Learning to Protect your Identity” – <a href="http://internetsociety.org">internetsociety.org</a></p>	<p><a href="https://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/Understanding%20your%20Online%20Identity%20Learning%20to%20Protect%20your%20Identity.pdf">https://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/Understanding%20your%20Online%20Identity%20Learning%20to%20Protect%20your%20Identity.pdf</a></p>	
<b>WHAT TO DO</b>		
<p><b>Identity Theft Resources</b> - You may be a victim of identity theft if someone else has used your information or identity as if it were their own. There are different types of identity theft and there is a different resolution process for each type.</p>		<p><b>Identity Theft Resource Center</b> Call and speak with an Identity Theft Specialist for free at: <b>888.400.5530</b></p>
<p><i>Federal Trade Commission</i> <i>Identity Theft Resource Center</i> <i>“How To Reduce Your Risk of Identity Theft” - Privacy Rights Clearinghouse</i></p>	<p><a href="https://identitytheft.gov/">https://identitytheft.gov/</a> <a href="http://www.idtheftcenter.org/">http://www.idtheftcenter.org/</a> <a href="https://www.privacyrights.org/consumer-guides/how-reduce-your-risk-identity-theft">https://www.privacyrights.org/consumer-guides/how-reduce-your-risk-identity-theft</a></p>	
<p><b>Protect your account credentials</b> - Learn the importance of protecting your account credentials and some of the more common ways to improve your account security. The most fundamental security practice is protecting your account credentials, username and password.</p>		
<p><i>“Protecting Your Credentials” – UC Berkeley</i></p>	<p><a href="https://security.berkeley.edu/resources/best-practices-how-articles/protecting-your-credentials">https://security.berkeley.edu/resources/best-practices-how-articles/protecting-your-credentials</a></p>	
<b>HOW TO DO IT</b>		
<p><b>Change your password</b> - It may seem like a nuisance, but changing your password is an important part of protecting your account credentials and online identity.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.howtogeek.com/235861/how-to-change-passwords-on-any-device-windows-mac-smartphone/">http://www.howtogeek.com/235861/how-to-change-passwords-on-any-device-windows-mac-smartphone/</a></p>	
<p><b>Use a strong password</b> - The stronger your password, the harder it is to break. Learn to create stronger passwords and as you change your password make the new one a strong password.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.sans.org/security-resources/policies/general/pdf/password-construction-guidelines">https://www.sans.org/security-resources/policies/general/pdf/password-construction-guidelines</a></p>	
<p><b>WARNING:</b> Changes to device and application settings can have unintended consequences and may interfere with normal operation. Improper use of encryption and authentication can cause a loss of data and prevent access. Please do not attempt to apply any guidance that exceeds your level of knowledge and familiarity with your device or application. All guidance is provided “as-is” from referenced sources. User assumes responsibility for any changes made to their device and/or applications.</p>		

