

Protect your Computer from Malicious Software (Viruses, Worms, Trojan horses, Spyware and Rootkits, etc.)

- Ensure you have a firewall between your computer and the Internet.
- As with everything on the Internet, be cautious if a site tries to install software on your computer or requests payment.
- Ensure your machine's operating system and applications are up-to-date with all security patches. "Patches" are software updates which address known security vulnerabilities that can be exploited by viruses and other malware, as well as rogue websites.
- Ensure you have anti-virus software installed, running and is updated regularly.

Don't Become a Victim of Phishing Attacks!

- Be cautious when clicking links in unsolicited emails, as emails are easily forged and can point your computer to malicious websites. Some contain software which can harm your computer or track your activities on the Internet without your knowledge.
- Best practices when opening email include asking the following questions:
 - Did I expect this email?
 - Is it from someone I know and trust?
 - Is the content reasonable and/or relevant?
 - Are there spelling mistakes or is there unusual grammar used?
- If you get an email or pop-up message, asking for personal or financial information, DO NOT reply and DO NOT click on any links in the message.
- In most phishing schemes, the fraudulent email message will request you "update", "validate", or "confirm" your account information.
- Some even threaten a dire consequence if you do not respond.
- The emails can direct you to a fraudulent website which may look very similar to a legitimate business website.
- These bogus websites can steal your identity, steal your money, or commit other crimes in your name.
- If you receive an email requesting information regarding your bank account or if you receive a questionable email in reference to your bank account, please contact us immediately at (512) 281-1500.
- If you have any questions regarding these tips, please feel free to give us a call.