

## October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

## **Securing Devices at Home & Work**

COVID-19 has caused us to rethink how we connect, interact, and how we do business. We have become more connected between our homes and our businesses. These two internet-connected environments are colliding on a scale we've never seen before, introducing a whole new set of vulnerabilities and problems. The responsibility for security has always been that of the business. In many cases, organizations have risen to the challenge and stepped up security to provide a safer user experience. Security, however, should never be this one-sided. We know that **security is everyone's responsibility** so what can we do?

**If you connect it, protect it!** Any device on your home network that has internet access must be protected. Here are some tips and best practices to help ensure that you are safe and secure at home as well as when you remote connect.

- Ensure that all systems on your home network are up to date on their security patches/software updates.
- Ensure that all systems on your home network have functioning antivirus/antimalware software.
- Ensure that all equipment with login IDs and passwords are set to something other than their defaults. Follow best practices for password creation.
- User work equipment for work and personal equipment for personal use. Never mix usage.
- Smart devices, such as smart speakers may require special settings to make them secure. Consider using an IT Professional to assist with securing home systems. The cost is well worth the additional security.
- Educate your household on best security practices. Visit the <u>Security Center</u> at for tips and best practices.

Securing devices at home is not hard and it does not have to break the bank. Good cybersecurity behaviors, such as these, are no longer relegated solely to the office. They have become woven into the fabric of our daily lives. In this always-on world, observing and following these best practices at home just makes good cyber-sense.

#BeCyberSmart this #CybersecurityAwarenessMonth

