SMALL BUSINESS
BIG THREAT

Cybersecurity Covid-19 Personal Data Breach Tips

With the rise of Covid-19 related cyberattacks, we should expect an increase in data breaches. Do you know what to do if your personal data is exposed by hackers? Is there anything you can do? Depending on what type of information was breached there are different steps you can take to help protect yourself. Here are some of the steps you can take.

Always:

1. Confirm with the organization a breach occurred and what data was exposed
2. Confirm if your data was exposed

If a user account was breached:

1. Change your account passwords and consider updating other accounts that use similar usernames and passwords.
2. Change your challenge questions or password hints.
3. Enable multifactor authentication for the account and consider using this on other accounts too.
4. Look for unauthorized logins to your account. Some accounts allow this, if not reach out to the organization and ask them.
5. Logout all devices currently signed in to the account. Some accounts allow this, if not reach out to the organization and ask them.

If personally Identifiable information (PII) was exposed:

1. Consider freezing your credit.
2. Consider credit monitoring or ID theft protection if offered. If it was not offered, consider purchasing your own.
3. Consider changing any credit or debit card numbers if impacted by the breach.
4. Review any impacted financial accounts for fraud.

If you believe you fell victim to a personal data breach you may report it to the Federal Trade Commission at https://identitytheft.gov/. They also have additional steps and resources to create a recovery plan and to put the plan into action.

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