

# Tech Security

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## Reminder:

- This class is going to be focused on ***Tech/Virtual Security***.
- We don't have time to talk about physical courtroom security, but we have several resources and other courses on that topic.

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WHAT DO WE  
MEAN WHEN WE  
SAY, "TECH  
SECURITY"?

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## Real-Life Example

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This Might  
Seem Silly at  
First Glance...

- While things like this might not be a threat to your physical security, they can really impact your personal information security *or* cause a lot of problems for your court.

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# What Bad Actors Should we be Worried About?

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## Potential Tech Threats

- Litigants who are angry about a case
- People who don't like your politics
- Hacking institutions (*they might not even have a clue who you are!*)
- Young people testing the waters or rebelling
- Criminals seeking information to get money
- *Did we miss anyone?*

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Texas Court's website hit by  
ransomware attack

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How Can You  
Protect Yourself  
Online?

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## What personal information should you avoid putting online?

- Have your address protected from public view
- Consider limiting family photos and not adding vacation photos until you return home
- Consider limiting personal information online and keeping separate social media accounts

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## How Can You Redact Your Information?

*See handout*

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# How Can You Protect Court Information Online?

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## Top Tips

- Follow your county's IT policies and procedures
- Be careful opening emails and downloads
- Use a screen protector to prevent people from "looking over your shoulder"
- Secure virtual hearings
- Train your staff!
- Be ready to go mobile if disaster strikes

*Details on the next few slides*

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## County Tech Department

- If your county has an IT department or contracts with a company to provide IT services, take advantage of it!
- If your county has limited IT services, take advantage of the free information out there.
  - Texas Association of Counties County Information Resources Agency (TAC CIRA)
  - Help and Message Boards on Software Websites
  - ***What else??***

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## Phishing Emails

- These are like the text we talked about earlier – trying to trick you into giving out info or sending money

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## How do you know if it is phishing or malicious?

- Things to help you tell if it is real or not:
  - Who is the sender? Do you know them?
  - Look at the email address – Is this the one they usually use?
  - Are there red flags with urgency/threats? – “We will delete your account...”
  - Mistakes? Typos?
  - Too good to be true?
  - Is there an alternative contact you could make to verify?

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## Downloading Attachments


- Questions to Ask:
  - Was I expecting something from this person?
  - Anything **phishy** about the email?
  - What kind of file is it? (look out for .exe files)
  - If you are suspicious, can you contact the sender a different way to verify?

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# REAL OR PHISHING?

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SAYLA Invoice Payment Confirmation > Inbox x

 Invoices <sayla@memberclicks-mail.net>  
to me ▾

## Invoice Payment

Hello,

A payment has been made on the attached **invoice**. Thank you.

[Click here to view the paid invoice](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)



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## Physical Safety for Tech

- This class is all about keeping you safe in the virtual/computer world, but sometimes that involves using physical equipment (or looking out for it).
- Screen protectors – these are great if you are concerned that non-office personnel might get a peek at confidential information on your screens.
- Watch out for credit card skimmers and other similar products – they can be very convincing.
- ***Anything else you can think of??***

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## Secure Virtual Hearings

- ***What are some of the things you do to keep your virtual court sessions secure and professional?***
- The Office of Court Administration (OCA) has a whole webpage devoted to helping your court keep virtual hearings secure –
  - <https://txcourts.gov/programs-services/electronic-hearings-zoom/>

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## Train Your Staff

- Make sure your staff understands county and office policies
- Use free resources
  - Your county
  - TAC
  - National Center for State Courts - <https://www.ncsc.org/consulting-and-research/webinars>
  - ***Any that you know of and like to use??***

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Be ready to go  
mobile if disaster  
strikes!

***See your handout***

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# Thank you!

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