



## DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION

### DTI eSecurity News - Stay Secure This Holiday Season

#### Safe Online Holiday Shopping

Before you start holiday shopping, take a look at these tips from StaySafeOnline.org:

- **Keep a Clean Machine** - All devices used for shopping should have up-to-date software, security, operating systems, programs and apps.
- **When in Doubt, Throw it Out** - Links in online advertising, emails, Tweets and posts are ways cybercriminals compromise your information. If it looks suspicious, delete or mark as junk email.
- **Be Savvy about Wi-Fi Hotspots** - Sure it might be nice to shop online while sipping a beverage in your favorite coffee shop, but unsecured Wi-Fi networks, those that don't require a password, can be cybercriminals' best sources for capturing your personal and financial information.
- **Make Sure the Site is Legitimate** - This includes a closed padlock on your web browser's address bar and a URL address that begins with https.
- **Use Safe Payment Options** - Credit cards are generally the best option because they help buyers seek a credit from the issuer if the product isn't delivered or isn't what was ordered. Check your credit card company to know what the monetary limit you are responsible for paying in the event of identity theft.

#### Welcome CIO James Collins



DTI is pleased to welcome James Collins as our new Chief Information Officer. Describing his approach to working with our client agencies, CIO Collins says, "DTI supports state organizations to help them accomplish their mission to serve the people of Delaware. I look forward to meeting many of you in the months ahead."

Learn more about CIO Collins on the [DTI Internet](#).

#### Holiday Photos and Geotagging

Geotagging is the process of adding geographical information to photos, videos, websites and SMS messages. It's the equivalent of adding a 10-digit grid coordinate to everything you post on the Internet.

It can be a wonderful feature for sharing where you captured that beautiful sunset shot and can help you locate your own past memories and events with just a few clicks. This practice can make it easier for you to arrange photos and share with family and friends the places and events that are important to you.

The dark side of geotagging is what is known as "social surveillance by GPS." Those with ill intent can use public geotagging information to pinpoint your location, home, and even your daily activities with very little effort. Avoiding the risks is one more important thing to keep in mind during holiday travel and gatherings.

#### Avoiding Risks

- **Know When NOT to Use Geotags** - It is never wise to broadcast the address of private locations like homes, vacation homes, schools and hotel rooms by geotagging. Never geotag photos of children.
- **Know How to Disable Your Phone or Camera's Geotagging Features** - Every smartphone has the geotagging feature automatically set to operate so you need to learn the settings and operations of your particular brand and model. Read your owner's manual, you'll be glad you did.
- **Disable the Geotagging Ability** - Enable it only when you make a conscious decision to use it.

Questions or comments?

E-mail us at [eSecurity@state.de.us](mailto:eSecurity@state.de.us)

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