



Take a second to be secure.

The Security Minute

A communication of the Longwood University Information Security Office

Read *The Security Minute* Online: www.longwood.edu/infosec

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What is new account fraud?

New account fraud is a type of identity theft in which the criminal uses the information obtained about you to open new accounts in your name and then becomes delinquent on those accounts, ruining your credit. This type of fraud is often difficult to detect.

AWARENESS: The First Step to Preventing Identity Theft

One of the most important reasons for maintaining an information security program is to prevent identity theft. By following security policies and procedures and thinking about security we are protecting ourselves, our students and others from identity theft.

What is identity theft?

Identity theft is a crime that occurs when a criminal uses your personally identifiable information (name, Social Security Number, credit card number) to assume your identity for his/her own benefit.

How does identity theft happen?

Criminals obtain personally identifiable information to steal identities by:

- Dumpster diving through personal and business trash
- Tricking employees into revealing information
- Hacking into systems
- Stealing mail
- Misusing the access they have at their jobs
- Phishing
- Stealing wallets

What's the worst that could happen?

A criminal could:

- Open and max out a new credit card account in your name
- Obtain utilities or other services in your name and then not pay
- Drain your bank account
- Get identification (ex. driver's license) in your name with his/her picture

Is identity theft a real threat?

YES! According to the FTC up to 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. Victims of identity theft report losses of hundreds of dollars and many hours of time.

Do you know what *pod slurping* is? Find out in MOAT 2009.

MOAT 2009 has arrived. MOAT 2009 has expanded information about identity theft and more up-to-date examples of the increasing importance of security.

The required annual security awareness training offered by the online MOAT system has been updated for 2009. When your training certificate is set to expire you will receive notification from MOAT to complete the training again. Take 45 minutes, read the material, answer the questions and agree to our policies and you will be certified again.

Also, be sure to check out our MOAT Frequently Asked Questions page if you are having any trouble completing MOAT:

www.longwood.edu/infosec/moat/faq.html



The Security Minute is a monthly publication aimed at raising awareness of information security related issues and concerns. If you have any questions regarding the newsletter, please contact Melissa Short at 434-395-2034 or shortmj@longwood.edu.