FORT SHERMAN ACADEMY

FSA

Providing Traveler Safety Training and Risk Management Services

Topics in this edition:

Preventing Phone Tracking   **Facial Recognition**   **Trending Scams**   **New Course!**

Ransomware is Spreading

Our smartphones not only supply us with useful information but collect data and information from us for use in targeted advertising. This type of advertising caters the ads you see to fit your primary day-to-day habits. You might have noticed a form of this advertising if, for example, after looking at airplane tickets to Dallas you suddenly see various ads about Dallas tourist attractions. Facebook, Apple, Amazon, and Google are some big examples of companies who track your data. These companies usually have justifications, such as tracking personal calls and emails to prevent fraud, but it can still be unnerving to know that everything you do can be seen and used by others. Below are a few steps you can take to protect your privacy.

- Stop Google Tracking: Turning of location data on the Google app helps restrict Google from storing your location information. To turn it off, go into your Google account and click on "Personal Info" in the Privacy section. Click on "Manage your Google Activity" and select "Go to Activity Controls". Here you can turn off the types of data being saved to your account.
- Use a Private Browser: Apps like DuckDuckGo and Firefox Focus lets you search the internet without recording your search terms and history, as well as blocking trackers.
- Check App Permissions: Before installing apps, check what permissions they require. This not only lets you see if they require too much information but also lets you weed out apps that are continually running in the background and killing your battery. Bonus!

Are You Ready to Lose Your Laptop?

Originally, the idea of facial recognition was created to help police with security threats, but today more and more facial recognition devices are popping up in restaurants, airports, or being used as a replacement for keys.

Facial recognition technology works by using a faceprint. This is created by measuring the distance between points on your face such as the distance between your eyes or the width of your nose. About 80 of these various points are used to create your faceprint. Once the faceprint is in a database, it can be matched to any other face photograph taken by a facial recognition camera.

Under the auspices of security, the system is spreading quickly. Schools in New York and Colorado are going live. The top 20 US airports are aiming for 100 percent recognition by 2021. Hundreds of retail stores and restaurants have begun implementing their own versions as well. Setting the security claims aside, it's still a multi-billion dollar industry that is gathering momentum. But it's also opening a whole Pandora's Box of other problems around privacy. More on that to come…

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Trending Scams

~ Someone shows up at your doorstep and informs you that you have a package. They are not able to tell you the originating address but say that you must pay a "verification fee" before receiving the package.

Advice: Most online stores let you track your package or give you an estimated delivery date so that you can be more aware of incoming packages. Never give personal information or money without first seeing where or who the package is from.

~ You receive a phone call from someone claiming to have kidnapped a loved one. Sometimes you might hear a person screaming in the background. The caller orders you to stay on the line and immediately send money to ensure the release of your loved one.

Advice: Try to slow the situation down. Ask them questions like where the victim is or ask to speak directly to the victim. Stay on the line while using a different phone to find out where the victim is. Stay calm and notify the police as soon as possible.

New Course for Short Term Teams Entering Medium Risk Countries

This half-day course provides live interactive instruction on multiple safety and security challenges, as well as foundational practices for faith-based travelers going abroad short-term.

Subject matter focuses on intermediate to medium threat areas which includes: identifying risks and responses from a Biblical view, controlling private information in an exploitative environment, travel safety preparation and procedures, mitigating the manipulative border crossings and security checkpoints, situational awareness on foot, in vehicle, and at lodging, as well as prevention and guidance through the most common types of criminal activity.

Contact us to know more about the details and how we can help you meet your safety needs.

Register now for these CAPTIVE SAINT classes:

C+ July 9 -18 Rural (ID)   C+ August 6 – 15 Rural (ID)

B+ Sept 27-28 (TN)   B+ Nov 18-20 (San Diego)

C+ June 9 – 18, 2020   ~   C+ July 14 – 23, 2020   ~   C+ August 18 – 27, 2020

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Fort Sherman Academy trains and supports organizations in faith-based security and risk management. We assist in the furtherance of their mission by training them to better avoid, protect and survive potential or actual adverse events thus allowing them to reach every corner of the globe.