



## Security Snippets — March 2020

*A monthly compendium of cybersecurity news*



Security at  
[organization]

Enter your security news here (or delete this row).

### Hot Topics

This newsletter contains links to online news articles and websites. Before clicking, see “Should You Trust the Links” way below.

To paraphrase from an old Monty Python sketch, “[Scam, scam, scam, scam.](#)” As Snippets (and everybody else) have been warning, we’re seeing all types of COVID-19/coronavirus scams. [Stimulus check scams](#) are also kicking into high gear, as the [FTC is warning](#). So please, do not trust any email, text, or website sharing COVID-19 information or supplies. Listed below are authoritative government sites for information on the pandemic and the stimulus checks.

- <https://www.azdhs.gov/> — Arizona Department of Health Services for the latest Arizona statistics and information
- <https://www.cdc.gov/> — Center for Disease Control’s website
- <https://www.cisa.gov/coronavirus> — DHS Critical Infrastructure Security Agency’s website
- <https://www.coronavirus.gov/> — Federal resources with guidance and links to more info
- <https://www.fema.gov/Coronavirus-Rumor-Control> — FEMA’s website to dispel rumors
- <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus> — IRS website with info about Coronavirus Tax Relief
- <https://www.nga.org/coronavirus/> — State updates and emergency declarations

### Cybercrime / Hacking

Beware of zoom-bombing. That’s when an uninvited person crashes your Zoom video meeting. Zoom bombers are sharing violent videos and images, and pictures of a man’s, um, favorite part of his anatomy. So, don’t post the link to your video meetings on social media or public websites, and use [Zoom’s host controls](#).

Sextortion scammers are adding the COVID-19 pandemic as a tool to scare and extort money from victims. The [new version threatens](#) to infect victims’ families with the SARS-CoV-2 virus if the extortion demands are not met, in addition to revealing “dirty secrets.”

### Home / Personal Issues

There’s a new app called [Quarantine Chat](#) that may help some people who are experiencing loneliness while in isolation. Snippets hopes you take care of your mental as well as physical health.

Are you working from home? Are you wearing pants? Walmart says it’s seeing increased sales of tops — [but not bottoms](#). This news gave Snippets a much-needed giggle.

### Politics / Legislation

Nothing significant to report this month. Snippets thinks folks are busy working on other stuff.



Privacy / ID Theft	<p>You probably heard about the spring breakers who congregated on Florida beaches instead of practicing their physical distancing. A company <u>analyzed anonymized mobile devices</u> that were active at a single Ft. Lauderdale beach during spring break to see where they went (and where COVID-19 potentially spread). The video is pretty scary. And from a privacy standpoint, this is also a reminder that your GPS-enabled mobile device is a tracking device.</p> <p><u>Child identity theft</u> is a growing problem. And unfortunately, 60% of child identity fraud victims personally know their thief.</p>
Best Practices / Risk Mgmt	<p>You know you should use strong, long, unique passwords. But how do you remember them? See the attached document from the Michigan Cyber Command Center that describes password managers.</p> <p>You also know about phishing scams. But how do you tell a phish from a legitimate email? See the attached document from the Association of American Railroads Railway Alert Network that explains tell-tale phishing indicators. This is aimed at the rail sector but applies to all.</p> <p>The California Cyber Security Integration Center put out a good guide for teleworkers. See attached. This info is good for all computer users — not just those teleworking.</p>
Quotes of the Month	<p>As unique as we all are, an awful lot of us want the same things. We want to shake up our current less-than-fulfilling lives. We want to be happier, more loving, forgiving and connected with the people around us.</p> <p>—Brene Brown</p> <p>I am confident that nobody... will accuse me of selfishness if I ask to spend time, while I am still in good health, with my family, my friends and also with myself.</p> <p>—Nelson Mandela</p> <p>Beginning today, treat everyone you meet as if they were going to be dead by midnight. Extend to them all the care, kindness and understanding you can muster, and do it with no thought of any reward. Your life will never be the same again.</p> <p>—Og Mandino</p>
Bonus!	<p>Here's a <u><a href="#">list of concerts</a></u> you can watch from home right now.</p> <p><u>Heavy metal classical?</u> Yes, please. This is enthralling and magical. Seriously.</p> <p>For those who prefer literature to music, here are the first lines of 10 classic novels, <u><a href="#">rewritten for social distancing</a></u>.</p>



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Questions & Feedback	<p>Security Snippets is brought to you by your organization and the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Its purpose is to increase Arizona's cyber resilience by helping you learn more about security and privacy so you can better protect yourself and your family.</p> <p><u>Important:</u> It is up to you to make sure you take the proper steps to secure your home networks and devices. The ACTIC is not responsible for your personal devices.</p> <p>Contact Snippets at <a href="#">ACTIC Cybersecurity</a> with any questions, to provide feedback, or to be added/removed from this distribution. Please note that this email address is not monitored 24x7.</p> <p>Any views or opinions presented in this newsletter are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the ACTIC. Reference to any specific commercial product, process, service, link, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of the reader, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or disparagement by the ACTIC.</p>
Should You Trust the Links	<p>This email contains links. Should you trust them? Thanks for asking! So, let's examine this message. It contains the ACTIC's standard header, states its purpose is to increase your security awareness, and doesn't threaten or ask you to respond immediately. The verbiage is conversational, rather than formal and attempts to be interesting and entertaining, as well as educational. And you probably signed up to receive this newsletter. Snippets says to trust it, but what do you think? Send an email to <a href="mailto:ACTICCybersecurity@azdps.gov">ACTICCybersecurity@azdps.gov</a>. (Hint: Hover your mouse over any link to see where it's really going.)</p>

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