



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

29 September 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL AIRMEN AND GUARDIANS

FROM: SAF/CN
1800 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC, 20330

SUBJECT: The 2021 Cybersecurity Awareness Month (CSAM)

We all have a duty as Airmen and Guardians to remain vigilant and do our part to protect our information, networks, equipment, and systems from those who seek to undermine our capabilities and hinder our warfighting efforts. The purpose of Cybersecurity Awareness Month is to protect our community and mission through education about common cybersecurity lapses.

This year, we continued adapting to new ways we operate across the Department and with our Joint and mission partners. Our increased connections, through various virtual platforms and use of robust teleworking systems throughout our digital enterprise, now represent a permanent change to how the Department operates on a routine, contingency, and wartime basis. This change in posture facilitates greater collaboration and better mission accomplishment, but also increases our exposure to cybersecurity threats. Cybersecurity Awareness Month reminds us to be aware of these potential vulnerabilities and to apply simple techniques to reduce exposure of our mission, business, and personal systems to cyber threats.

Specifically, Cybersecurity Awareness Month features targeted weekly themes to emphasize various cybersecurity issues in this virtual, collaborative environment. The Department of the Air Force Cybersecurity Awareness Month themes are:

- Week 1: "Social Media and You"
- Week 2: "Phishing and Ransomware"
- Week 3: "Secure Teleworking and Multi-Factor Authentication"
- Week 4: "Be Mindful of IoT Connected Devices"

I encourage all of you to participate in CSAM activities at unit, base, and wing level in addition to using the resources available at <https://www.safcn.af.mil/ciso/>. Thank you for doing your part to protect yourself, your fellow Airmen and Guardians, and your families in cyberspace.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lauren Knausenberger", is positioned above the typed name.

LAUREN BARRETT KNAUSENBERGER, SES, DAF
Chief Information Officer