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CREATING A DATA SECURITY PLAN
FOR YOUR OFFICE

If you weren't aware of it, and nationally fewer than half of tax professionals are, we are required by law (since 1999) to create and enact security plans. Most of us have not.

The law is the *Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act* which gave the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) authority to set information safeguard regulations. Tax professionals (you and me) are obliged to protect client data and to cooperate with any IRS investigation related to data theft. Failure to do so may result in an FTC investigation of your office.

So, how do we create this data security plan?

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Data Security Plan continued from page 1

- Your plan must be appropriate to your company's size and complexity. A business should also consider the sensitivity of the customer information it handles.
- Designate one or more employees to coordinate your information security program.
- Identify and assess the risks to customer information and evaluate the effectiveness of your safeguards for controlling any risks to data.
- After designing and implementing a safeguards program, your business should regularly monitor and test it.
- Your business should select service providers that can maintain appropriate safeguards.
- When signing a contract with a service provider, your business should make sure the contract requires the provider to maintain safeguards and oversee their handling of customer information.
- Evaluate and adjust your program in light of relevant circumstances such as changes in the firm's business or operations.

See Publication 4557, Safeguarding Taxpayer Data for more information on how to comply with the FTC safeguards rule, including a checklist of items to include in a data security plan.

Note that the IRS may treat a violation of the FTC Safeguards Rule as a violation of IRS Revenue Procedure 2007-40. This sets the rules for tax professionals participating as an Authorized IRS e-file Provider.

STUFF WE CAN'T DO ANYMORE

The old song and dance is gone. So are the Broadway shows and ballgames. No longer can we deduct "entertainment". The TCJA has eliminated the deduction for any expenses related to activities considered entertainment, amusement or recreation. We can still deduct the usual 50% of business meals.



REALLY IMPORTANT NOTICE

Seminar attendees will be emailed their pdf copies of the course materials on **October 25**. Please make a note of this date and if you haven't received your materials by the 26th please contact Sandra Torrence at

confidential1227@aol.com.

You'll also receive the Agenda for both days and all the course descriptions. Remember to think up your questions for our "Stump the Speaker" class.

Your **CE certificates** will be emailed to you after the cruise, so be sure to sign in-sign out on both days and double check your email address with Sandi at confidential1227@aol.com.

SEMINAR AT SEA IS ON FACEBOOK

The Board thought that staying in touch before and during the cruise with *Facebook* would be a great idea, so that's what we've done.

Page Name: Seminar at Sea 2018

Link: <https://m.facebook.com/groups/440375386466957>





FLORIDA CHAPTER NEW MEMBERS

JANUARY—SEPTEMBER 2018

A RENAYE LINTON, ANA GISSELA PATINO, ANGELO A BROOKS, ANGELYN FONTANELLA, ANN C BROOKS, ANTHONY NICHOLAS NAZAROWSKI, ARIAGNA SILVA ALVAREZ, ARLEX VALENCIA, ARMANDO SALAS-AMARO, JR, BARBARA K MANNING, BEN MARTORANA, BEN ROGATINSKY, BETH ANN WILSON, BHARTESH PATEL, BRIAN R BOARD, BRUCE F ROBERTS, CARLA BASHFORD, CARLOS CHAN SANCHEZ, CARLOS LOPEZ, CARMEN L RODRIGUES, CAROL E WYSOCKI, CARROLL S. BARCO, JR, CHAD CHAUNCEY, CHELSEY ANNE TURBYFILL, CHERYLE TRACEY, CHRISTINA PATRICK, CHRISTINE LYNN TURRY, DANIEL HENN, DAVE RANCOURT, DAVID HASTINGS, DEA LYNNE MILLER, DEBORAH FOX, DEBORAH L VACOPOULOS, DENISE SIMARD, DENNIS L REEBER, DENNIS THURESON, DEREK G FUELLING, DEREK LATIMONT NORRIS, DIANE REXACH CALO, DIANE KOST, DOTTIE M BOURLIER, DRUCILLA BURGESS, EDNA MENDEZ, EDWARD KEITH ROTZ, EDWIN VALEZQUEZ, ELIZABETH FISHER BENDER, ELIZABETH THOMPSON, ELMIRA ZAYNUTDYNOVA, EMILY G HANCOCK, EMILY M HOLLAND, EMILY MITCHELL, EMMA MARIE LOPEZ, ERIC A BORGES, ESMERALDA A SHANKS, ESTEBANA JEREZ-CORDERO, EVELYN E ROBERTS, FLAVIO FRANCO, GABRIELLE HORTELANO, GALEN BRONSON, GLADYS WRIGHT, GRAHAM MCCULLOCH, GREGORY M BARTICE, GRETIL SILER, GRISELIA TORRES, GUILLERMO JARQUIN, GUSTAVO NUNEZ, HEATHER ADAMS, HOWARD C HARRIOTT, INDIANI S PARSAUD, JAIME F TAYLOR, JAMES BLACKFORD, JASON BROWN, HEANETTE STIERS, JEANNE L SUMMERALL, JENNIFER CUSIDO MACIAS, JESUS BERNAL, JOANNE WILLETS, JOHN MCALPINE, JOSE A RAMIREZ, JOSEPH F MULLEN, JOSEPH M REHM, JOZSEFNE LUKACS, JOUAN DONALD CALVO, JUAN PARDO, JUSTIN K GATES, KAREN ROBINSON WATSON, KIMBERLY MAHLER, LAURIE E WEBER, LEIGH MCCORMICK, LENORA PETTAWAY, LISA BERISH, LISA M WARNER, LIZ VANESSA CASTRO, LOUISE CASTELLI, MANAL OLIVER, MARANGELEY RODRIGUES, MARIA ELENA ALBO, MARIANNE KERN, MCFADDIN MOISE, JR, MICHAEL A BELUS, MICHELE SHAW, MIREYA CALDERON, MONICA ADAM, NELSON COLLIN, NICHOLAS RIZZO, NICLES DESTIN, NICOLE JONES, NILS ROBERT LENZ, OSCAR B BROWN, PAMELA J HENLEY, PAMELA SOULE, PATRICIA OBERMEYER, PAUL MARXSEN, PETRA PITKONEN, POLINA PRIDANOVA, PRASHANT VADHULAS, REA MARTINEZ-MALO, REBECCA LANGFORD, RENEE GREEN, ROBERT CLARK, RUPERTO ENRIQUE RAMOS URIARTE, SANDRA SOLARCHIK, SANTANA JOHNSON, SEETHARAMI R BHAVANAM, SHERRIE BELINDA JOHNSON-ASHLEY, SHIRLEY B ROWAN, SHIRLEY LADINO, SIDNEY SIDLOW, SOREL DANTES, STACIE A GOSNELL, SUGEHIN M RIERA, SUHEY K AYALA, SUSAN DEBULA, SUSANA FLORES, SYLVIA SANNIA, THERESA TURNER, THOMAS L MESSER, TONYA VANFOSSON, VANNIE LECLAIRE, VICKY H FOLLOWELL, VICTOR MEYER, VIKTORIA ELISABETH SZOKE, VINCENT A SABIO, VITO MICHELE TUOZZOLO GONZALEZ, VIVIAN AQUINO-SOSA, WAYNE SCHMITS, ZACK KRAINES.

WELCOME TO YOU ALL. AMY BROSNAN-HAMILTON, PRESIDENT



SPICY PUMPKIN CHILI

What you'll need:

1 lb ground beef, 1/2 tsp crushed red pepper flakes (or to taste), 1 tsp minced garlic, 1/2 large onion, diced, 1 green and 1 red bell pepper, chopped (or use chili peppers for more spicy-ness), 1 15-oz can kidney beans, rinsed and drained, 1 15-oz can black beans, rinsed and drained, 1 15-oz can Great Northern beans, rinsed and drained. Some of the bean juice may be reserved if you want a "juicer" result. 1 8-oz can tomato sauce, 1 4-oz can tomato paste, 2 14.5 oz cans petite diced tomatoes, 1 14.5 oz can fire roasted diced tomatoes, 1 15-oz can pumpkin puree, 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice, 2 tsp chili powder (or to taste), 1 tsp ground cumin, 1 tsp salt (or to taste).

What to do with it all:

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat with some olive oil and add the beef. Stir and cook until crumbly and no longer pink. Stir in the red pepper flakes, garlic and onion. Continue cooking until the beef has browned and the onion has softened and turned translucent. Add the peppers and cook about 5 minutes more. While the beef is cooking, combine the remaining ingredients in a large pot and then add the ground beef mixture. Simmer for 45 minutes or until your taste testing tells you it's done.

The pumpkin gives this hearty chili a slightly sweet flavor and will make your kitchen smell like Halloween!!

LOOKING AHEAD

November 3—Our *Seminar at Sea* cruise departs from Tampa for a Caribbean cruise with 10 hours of CPE with our speaker Kathryn Keane, EA.

If you missed this cruise, well...looking ahead... we are planning a November 2019 cruise from Ft. Lauderdale. We'll have more information in the next newsletter.

December 13—Networking: East Coast Group Christmas "party" at Zappi's Italian Garden Restaurant, Daytona Beach. More details as we get closer to December.

January, 2019—Tax Workshop at Daytona State College. Date, time and agenda TBA. 8 CPE hours available.

May 30-31, 2019—The Spring Annual Conference!! Once again at *The Shores Resort and Spa* right on Daytona Beach. 16 hours CPE with a dynamic speaker, as always. Save the dates for this event. You won't be disappointed.

Your Chapter Board is planning more networking meetings around the state as well as planning more workshops. We are also looking into online webinars to help further your continuing education requirements. Your feedback is always welcome, so contact a Board member with your comments and suggestions.