

West Virginia Executive Branch Privacy Tip

Happy New Year!

The State Privacy Office would like to say thank you for all of the comments, questions and suggestions we received about the Privacy Tips we sent in 2012. We hope that you found the tips to be useful, in both your work and personal lives. In December, we sent a series of “Holiday Shopping” tips provided by the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse. We received a couple of questions about those tips, and addressed them individually as we received them. We love getting your comments - it lets us know you’re reading the tips and provides us with information about what you need from us.

We’re looking forward to an exciting 2013, starting with Data Privacy Day on January 28. Data Privacy Day is an effort to empower people to protect their privacy and control their digital footprint. It is a day to remind us that protecting privacy and data should be a priority for all of us. It is an opportunity for State Government and all employees to show our commitment to the privacy of our citizens.

Let’s get 2013 started with a simple tip that is invaluable!

Tip: Creating a Strong Password

You are asked to create a new password to access West Virginia’s computer systems. Which of these is a strong password?

- a. AbRaKaDaBrA
- b. 1B2o3b!!
- c. 4379FGB

(Answer below)

Note: Your agency/bureau/department/division may have specific requirements – always check your policies and procedures. If you have questions, contact your Privacy Officer.

Answer: b. Strong passwords are 8 or more characters long, and include 3 of the 4 character types: upper case, lower case, symbol, and numeral.