



GOV. PHILIP D. MURPHY | LT. GOV. SHEILA Y. OLIVER | DIR. JARED M. MAPLES

**NJOHSP****OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS**

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## **Governor Phil Murphy Signs Proclamation Declaring October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in New Jersey**

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**Press Contact: Patrick R. Rigby**  
[communications@njohsp.gov](mailto:communications@njohsp.gov) | 609.584.4392

**TRENTON, NJ** — Governor Phil Murphy signed a [proclamation](#) on September 21 declaring October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in New Jersey. Additionally, the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) announced that it is participating in Cybersecurity Awareness Month and National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) throughout October.

During the month of October, NJOHSP and the NJCCIC are [promoting](#) cybersecurity best practices alongside a coalition of private businesses, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions. Their goal is to increase awareness of cyber threats and inform the public about how to be safe and secure online.

Universal access to cyberspace has become a vital resource, allowing the residents of New Jersey to better connect with family and friends, complete business transactions remotely, work more efficiently, achieve educational goals, and connect to digital resources and services.

“The State of New Jersey faces a complex cyber threat environment. The physical world is increasingly becoming interconnected through the Internet,” said **Jared Maples, Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness**. “The convergence of physical security and cybersecurity has been an NJOHSP mission since the creation of the New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC) in 2015.”

NJOHSP’s cybersecurity efforts extend beyond just one month. The NJCCIC’s influence and impact on the cybersecurity landscape continues to expand. Membership in the NJCCIC has grown to over 7,000 members in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 31 countries, including such organizations as Interpol and Europol. Some of the NJCCIC’s recent success stories include developing critical partnerships with the public and private sector and developing a new set of information security policies and standards called the New Jersey Statewide Information Security Manual (SISM). Although the goal in rewriting the policies and standards was to create a road map to cyber resilience that State agencies could adopt, the SISM is also applicable beyond just State government. The SISM can be used as a template for any organization interested in a comprehensive and cogent information security manual.

“Recently, the NJCCIC developed a series of ‘[Be Sure to Secure](#)’ resource guides and instructional guides that provide the public with information on a variety of cybersecurity topics from how to secure your social media accounts to how to properly secure data, networks, and devices, ultimately reducing your cyber risk,” said **Michael Geraghty, Director of the New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell**.

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For more information and resources on cybersecurity, please visit [cyber.nj.gov](http://cyber.nj.gov) and [njohsp.gov](http://njohsp.gov). Additionally, the NJCCIC publishes cybersecurity tips on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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**The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP)**, a Cabinet-level agency, was created in 2006. The Director serves as the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor, and is responsible for leading and coordinating the State's counterterrorism, cybersecurity, and preparedness efforts while building resiliency throughout the State across all levels of government and the private sector. NJOHSP oversees and distributes discretionary State and federal homeland security and preparedness funds on behalf of New Jersey. More information about NJOHSP can be found at [njohsp.gov](http://njohsp.gov).

**The New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC)** is New Jersey's Information Sharing and Analysis Organization (ISAO). As the State's one-stop shop for cybersecurity resources under NJOHSP, it serves governments, businesses, and citizens across New Jersey by promoting better awareness of cyber threats and the adoption of best practices. To learn more about the NJCCIC or to become a member, please visit [cyber.nj.gov](http://cyber.nj.gov) or follow the NJCCIC on Twitter @NJCybersecurity.