

# *Privacy Protection Online*

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Privacy Ref

Do you have an internal privacy policy?

# What is Privacy?

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The acceptable use of personal information given the circumstances

## Privacy Policy

- Internal document
- Policy and procedure
- Sets expectations for employees
- Can be included in security notices

## Privacy Notice

- External document
- Sets expectations for your customers and partners
- Should reflect your policy

# Privacy Policy

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- Acceptable use
- Data classification
- Data retention and destruction
- Classification
- Vendor / Procurement
- Security
- Incident response

# Common Threats

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## Malicious Actors

- Social engineering
- Phishing
- Hacks or malware

## Human Error / Mismanagement

- Accidental disclosure
- Misconfiguration of systems
- Physical Loss

Perfect security is not possible.  
We want reasonable security.

Do your employees receive training on  
security and privacy threats?

# Social Engineering / Phishing

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## Social Engineering

- Taking advantage of human behavior to gain access to information
- Will try to leverage kindness or compassion
- Relies on “acceptable noncompliance”

## Phishing

- Emails meant to appear as if they are legitimate
- Regular phishing focuses on law of averages
- Spear-phishing targets specific individuals

# Social Engineering / Phishing

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## Training is the solution

- Following policy and procedure brings consistency of service
- Openness of issues with employees arms them to handle them better

# Hacks and Malware

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In some cases, malicious actors will take advantage of vulnerabilities in systems.

- Make sure systems are updated regularly
- Be aware of current threats and trends
- Third party vendors are a common vector for attacks
- Contractual remedies can assist with reducing harm, but may not stop attacks

# Hacks and Malware

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Understand that “perfect security” is not tenable.

**We want what is reasonable and appropriate.**

- Security needs trained, knowledgeable personnel
- Monitor and document the use of systems
- Incident response policies and practices are key

# Accidental Disclosure

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## Why does it happen

- Humans make mistakes
- Lack of consistent procedure
- Increased activity volume
- Lack of checks

## How do we stop it

- Training
- Establish procedures
- Provide checks in procedure to ensure compliance
- Audit process for efficacy

Do you use cloud-based systems?

# Misconfiguration of Systems

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Proper configuration avoids problems down the road. Failure to do so results in serious issues.

- Cloud systems can be exposed to the internet at large
- Information that is sensitive or restricted becomes available to users outside the intended scope



# Physical Loss

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## Theft

- Physical security is just as important as technical security
- Logs and access controls
- Remote wiping and monitoring for electronic devices

## Misplaced or Lost

- Chain of custody
- Remote wiping or access
- Employee responsibilities

Does your state have a privacy law?

# Privacy Laws

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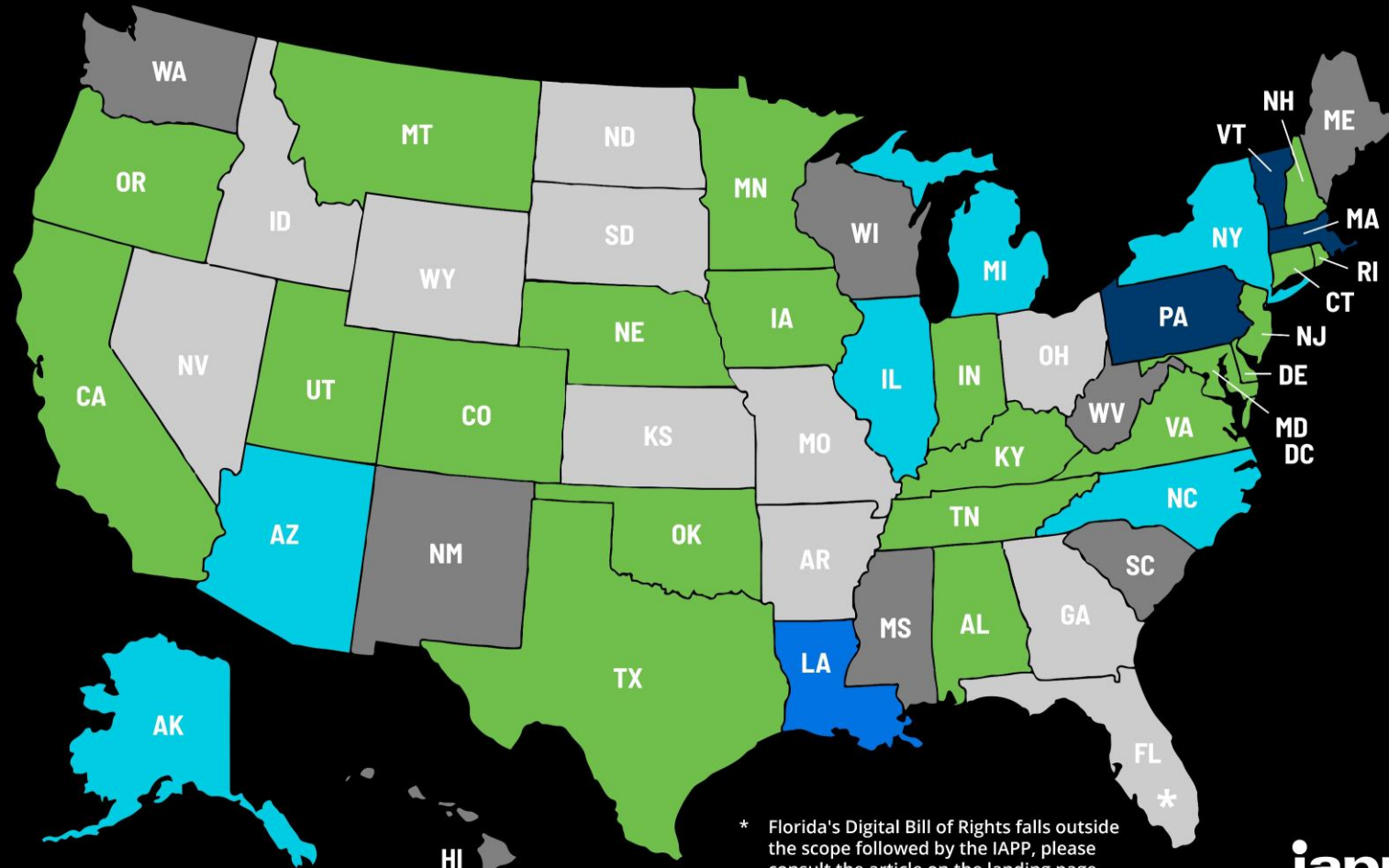
In the United States, more than 20 states have a state-wide privacy law. Common trends in those laws include:

- Data subject rights
- Changes to the definition of consent
- Sensitive information provisions
- Service Providers
- Fines for non-compliance

# US State Privacy Legislation Tracker 2026

## Statute/bill in legislative process

-  Introduced
-  In committee
-  In cross chamber
-  In cross committee
-  Passed
-  Signed
-  Inactive bills
-  No comprehensive bills introduced



 Last updated 18 May 2026

\* Florida's Digital Bill of Rights falls outside the scope followed by the IAPP, please consult the article on the landing page for more information.

# Data Subject Rights

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## Access

You can ask for access to your data, either confirming processing or providing a copy of the data.

## Deletion

**Erase your data**

## Selling of Data

Except where the information is provided to a service provider, you cannot provide the information to another organization for monetary or other valuable consideration.

# Data Subject Rights

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1. Receive the request
2. Verify the request
3. Gather information (execute the request)
4. Return the information/results
5. Document everything

# Receiving Requests

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Most state based privacy laws require two methods of receiving requests:

- Phone number (toll-free)
- Email
- Web form

Each form will have the same consideration

**What are you asking for?**

# Verification

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## Additional Information

- Information that only your organization and data subject would be likely to know
- Past purchases or payments
- Security questions

## Multi-Factor

- Use of systems or methods that require the individual to have access to an email or phone number can be reasonable choices

## Rejections

- If you do not believe the person is who they say they are
- Information not provided
- Request abandoned

# Execute

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- **Find the requested information**
  - Check all systems
  - Check with processors/vendors
- **Prepare information to be sent**
  - Remove erroneous information
  - Remove information of other data subjects

## Involvement Teams

- IT
- HR
- Legal
- Customer service
- Vendors

# Response

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During this step, you provide the information to the data subject

In some cases, a negative response is warranted.

- Failed to verify requestor's identity
- Legal obligations
  - Tax law
  - Employment Law
  - Legal defense
- Effects another data subject

# Documentation

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Everything **MUST** be documented.

- When the request was received
- When was the data subject request acknowledged
- When it is verified
- What information is subject to the request
- When was a response sent
- Any communications internally/externally about the request
- Deleted information categories and evidence of such the request for legal compliance

# Consent

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Consent is one of many legal basis we use to process someone's personal information. It is trending in laws towards an EU style definition.

- Freely Given
- Specific
- Informed
- Unambiguous
- **OPT-IN**

Do you have an opt-out mechanism?

# Consent

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In addition to trending towards opt-in consent, there is also the ability to revoke consent at any time.

This is similar to data subject rights, but can be done at any time, and must be as easy to revoke as it was to provide.

# Sensitive Information

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Most laws refer to certain, high-risk forms of information

- Political, philosophical, or religious beliefs
- Medical information
- Biometric or genetic information
- Sexual orientation
- Government Identifiers

Risk is usually defined by the possible harms based on misuse of that type of information

# Sensitive Information

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- If you do not need to process this information, don't.
- Be aware of the possibility of inference
- If processing this information is necessary, restrict to only those necessary purposes
- Restrict access to the data

# Service Providers

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Also called “processors”, organizations that process data on behalf of another organization.

- Must follow directions from the controller (business)
- Must have a written contract
- Cannot make decisions about the processing of information on behalf of another organization

# Fines and Penalties

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The state privacy laws generally handle violations in two ways.

## Fines

- Usually an amount per individual per violation.
- For example, California fines go up to \$750/person/violation.

## Penalties

- Orders to cease processing
- Orders to implement specific controls
- Requirements to audit program for prolonged period

What are you looking forward to at the annual conference?

# Thank you!

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