Internet-based social networking sites have created a revolution in social connectivity. However, con artists, criminals, and other dishonest actors are exploiting this capability for nefarious purposes.

Preventive Measures Include:

- Do not store any information you want to protect on any device that connects to the Internet.
- Always use high security settings on social networking sites, and be very limited in the personal information you share. Monitor what others are posting about you on their online discussions.
- Use anti-virus and firewall software. Keep them and your browser, and operating systems patched and updated.
- Change your passwords periodically, and do not reuse old passwords. Do not use the same password for more than one system or service.
- Do not post anything that might embarrass you later, or that you don’t want strangers to know.
- Verify those you correspond with. It is easy for people to fake identities over the Internet.

For more information on Social Networking Cybersecurity visit http://www.cdse.edu/toolkits/cybersecurity/socialmedia.html