



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SEP 23 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL AIRMEN

FROM: SAF/CIO A6
1800 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1800

SUBJECT: Cybersecurity Awareness Month - October 2016

In 2004, the Department of Homeland Security designated October National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM). This October, I will highlight the most powerful tool we have available to shore up our cyber defenses: our Airmen. Cybersecurity depends on every Airman regardless of rank or job description. Every time you log onto a system, click on a link, download a file, or plug one device into another, we risk exposing our systems to exploitation. As the pervasiveness of the "internet of things" expands, our devices, aircraft, and systems are more vulnerable to exploitable attack vectors.

Based on the CSAF's Task Force Cyber Secure recommendations, I am establishing the Chief Information Security Office (CISO). Industry leaders have been utilizing this approach to cybersecurity for several years, and it is time we had an enterprise strategy to protect and operate in cyberspace. In addition, October will begin a Strategic Messaging Plan called "Cyber Secure" that will address enculturation of cybersecurity throughout the service.

In 2016, it is no longer adequate to have just National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Going forward, we must position cyber at the forefront of our thinking, planning, and operations to successfully support the five core missions. Thank you for doing your part to keep us Cyber Secure, this October and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Bender".

WILLIAM J. BENDER, Lt Gen, USAF
Chief, Information Dominance and
Chief Information Officer