Working Virtually: Protecting Tax Data at Home and at Work

A five-part series from the IRS and Security Summit partners

The following are the basic “Security Six” protections that everyone, especially tax professionals handling sensitive data, should use:

1. **Activate anti-virus software** and keep it up to date.
2. **Use a firewall** to shield your computer or network from malicious traffic.
3. **Choose two-factor authentication** to add an extra layer of protection beyond a password.
4. **Use backup software/services** routinely for critical files on computers.
5. **Use drive encryption** to make sensitive client data unreadable to an unauthorized person.
6. **Create a Virtual Private Network** to allow for a more secure connection for remote work.