



## CYBERSECURITY AND COVID 19

Cyber security has been a concern for some time, even before the pandemic we have witnessed mind boggling breaches of cyber security and times when personal privacy has been tested like during the Cambridge Analytica saga.

However, with the pandemic in place, most business communications are forced to rely on digital platforms so as to curb the spread of the pandemic and to align with social distancing laws put in place. This has eliminated the subtle chance of having private conversations without facilitation of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party agent. Most business meetings are facilitated by zoom meetings.

### Increased risk of cyber theft

Further during these trying times that we have been forced to rely on digital platforms for communication there has been an increase in the number of scammers and fraudsters who seek information from online users. It is important that consumers and businesses avoid providing any personal information, login credentials or monetary payments through any email or other text mechanisms without conducting sufficient due diligence to make sure they are doing so to the right person.

### Compliance with Cybersecurity laws in place

Businesses turning to digital platforms for communications means they should comply with cyber security laws in place now more than ever and also are at risk of being caught on the wrong end these laws. It is very important that companies' asses these laws and avoid being at fault with them.

### Governments and privacy laws amid COVID 19

In efforts to curb the pandemic various governments have unleashed various measures that involve the use of patrolling apps to trace infected persons. The move has raised uproar among cyber security and privacy activists as breach to personal privacy and that it is likely to lead to governments to intrude into personal affairs.

As much as humanity is put to the test, privacy should dearly be protected since if not protected it is likely to lead to unfair advantages in businesses, rogue dealings and to some extent in the worst-case scenario may be used to manipulate people in elections and bigger life decisions.