

Follow the Data to Improve Your IT Security

Carlos Felix

Focusing on your data will
lead to greater stability.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Adapting to a “Small Business” Audience

Agencies with unlimited budgets often overlook more accessible, but equally valid options when giving advice to smaller agencies.

Although most agencies can’t afford the “ideal” solution, nearly everyone can improve their cybersecurity with little to no budget. Incremental changes over time and dedication to the process will ensure improvements.



About the Author

Carlos Felix

Director of IT, KY Auditor of Public Accounts



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Disclaimer

- Any cybersecurity websites, products, and services within this presentation are offered only as an example. No specific endorsement or representation is being made. The APA will not be responsible for the contents thereof.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Examples of Threats to Your Data



External Threats

Hackers, scammers, and even lightning storms.



User Frustration

Technology must be acceptable to be adopted



Tech Degradation

Machines wear out over time- including computers.



Mistakes

Sometimes we lose things, or spill coffee on something...



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

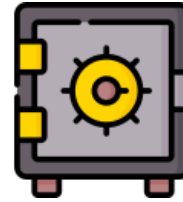
auditor.ky.gov





Solution

Three simple steps to improve your IT security.



Secure Your
Data

How to keep your
data safe from
others



Backup Your
Data

How to recover
your data if things
go bad



Transfer your
Data

How to safely send
data to others



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Elements of Security



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Secure Your Data

Your information is valuable.
Keep it safe from others.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov





Security at a Glance

Common Security Pitfalls and Solutions



Passwords

You should have one



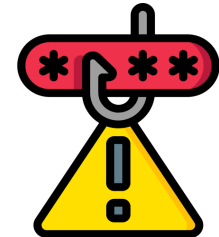
Newer Versions

Maybe you can upgrade for free?



Virus Protection

No hand sanitizer necessary



Common Scams

Your password was compromised.
Click Here



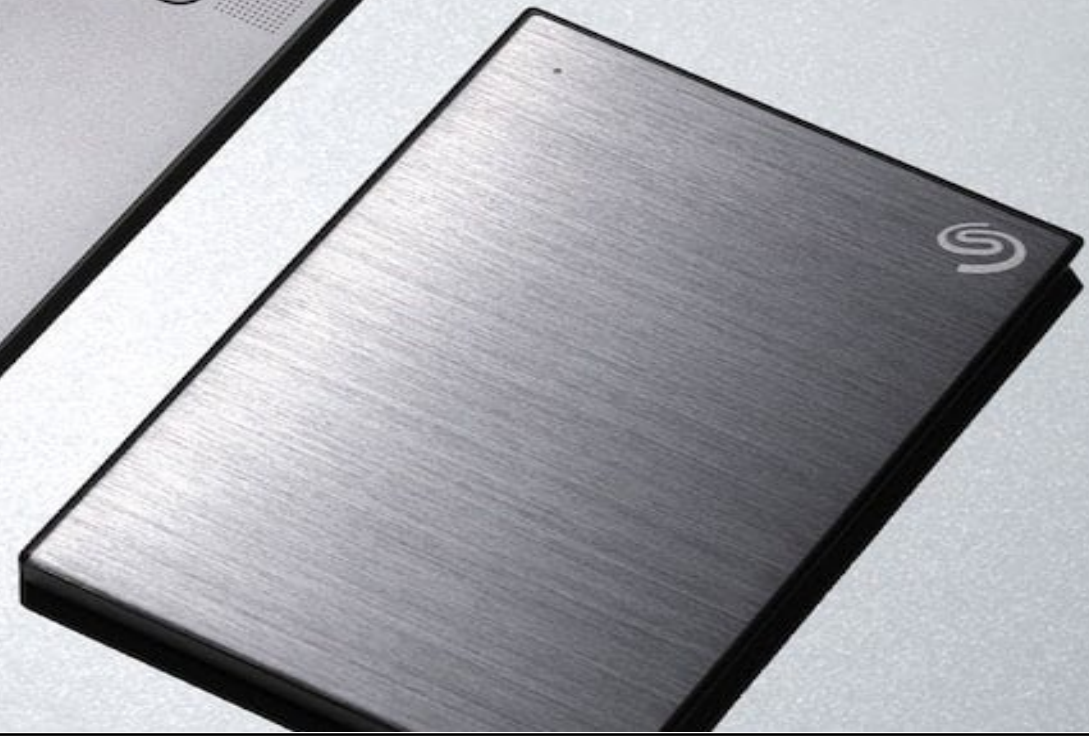
Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Backup Your Data

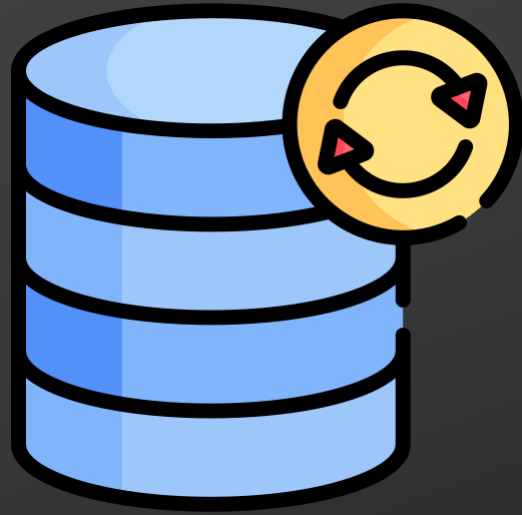
An acceptable solution
now is better than a
great solution next
month.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

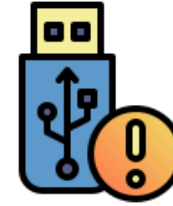
auditor.ky.gov





Backups at a Glance

Some thoughts and some products to get you started on your backup journey.



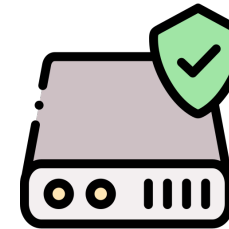
USB Drive

Drag and drop, or schedule it



Cloud Storage

Google Drive and Microsoft OneDrive



Disk Imaging

Clone a whole computer at once.



Hybrid

A bit of everything...



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov

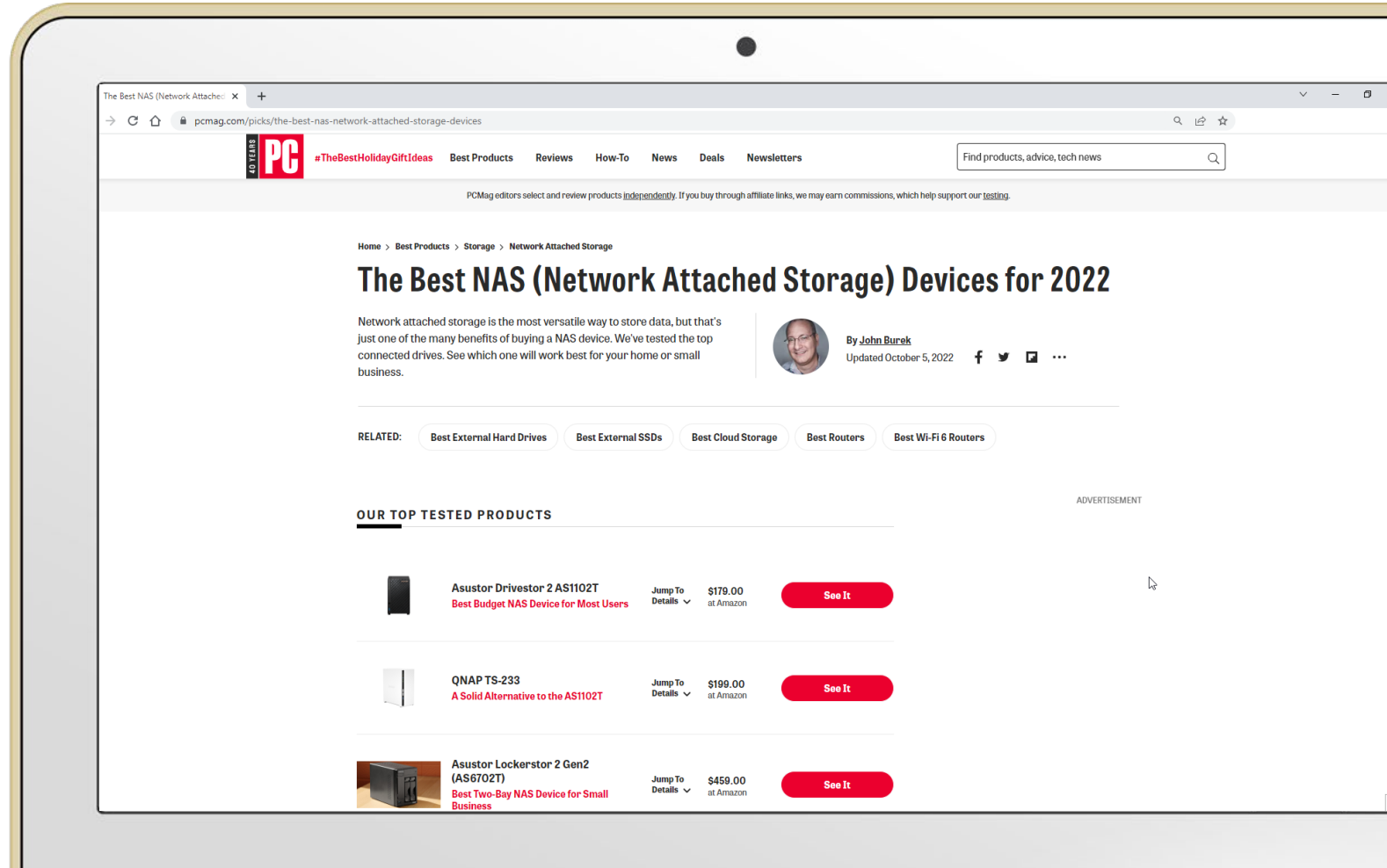


Researching Backup Devices

Decide on your Budget First

What is it worth to ensure you don't lose everything?

- Without a number in mind, you can get caught up chasing "the best".
- Remember- Having SOMETHING is better than having NOTHING
- Use reputable review sources. Some examples include CNET, PCmag, or Tom's Hardware.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov





Transferring Your Data

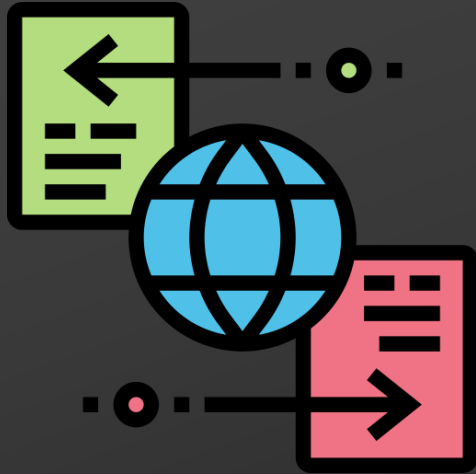
Securely send your data to others.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov





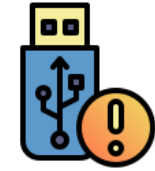
Transferring Data at a Glance

How to move files from one place to another.



Secure email

Office 365 has this built in for small files



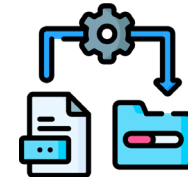
USB drives

Convenient until you drop it at McDonald's



Cloud Storage

Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive



Managed File Transfer

MoveIt, GoAnywhere MFT, Thru



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Implementation

Getting the security process in motion.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Phased Approach

Improving Security is a constant process

Phase 1

- Examine your current security and identify the critical issues.
- Resolve the most critical issues first.
- Enable free solutions such as passwords, virus and malware protection, and firewalls.
- Purchase hardware or software to overcome your obstacles.

Phase 2

- Review how the new solutions are working for you.
- Adjust accordingly.
- Make plans to resolve any remaining issues. Budget for security.

Phase 3

- You're up to date. Keep an eye on new potential problems.
- Continue to dedicate a portion of your budget for future issues.



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Additional Resources

Helpful articles to guide you to better security.

- <https://www.pcmag.com/news/the-beginners-guide-to-pc-backup>
- <https://www.cnet.com/tech/computing/best-external-hard-drive-ssd/>
- <https://www.tomsguide.com/best-picks/best-cloud-backup>



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov



Summary

Security starts by
taking the first step



- 1 Start small.
- 2 Continue to evaluate your needs.
- 3 Take the necessary actions.




Mike Harmon
State Auditor


auditor.ky.gov





Thank You

 Carlos Felix

 <https://auditor.ky.gov/>



Mike Harmon
State Auditor

auditor.ky.gov

