



For immediate release:
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ADVISORY: SDAT Real Property Search Tool Back Online, Cleared for Public Use

BALTIMORE - The Maryland Department of Information Technology (DoIT)'s Office of Security Management and the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) have thoroughly tested the Real Property website and confirmed it is cleared for public use. The Real Property Search Tool is now back [online](#).

On April 14, 2026, DoIT detected suspicious activity on servers running SDAT's Real Property Search website application. In response, DoIT quickly took the website offline to contain potential threats and conduct an investigation of the suspicious activity.

Analysis from SDAT and DoIT's Office of Security Management confirms that all compromised systems contained only public information already accessible through the Real Property Search web application. DoIT's analysis found no evidence of a broader compromise related to this incident.

SDAT is sincerely grateful for the public's continued patience as the Department navigated this challenge. The agency is fully committed to supporting the communities it serves and ensuring that constituents receive the reliable information they depend on.

SDAT and DoIT's Office of Security Management remind Maryland residents and businesses to avoid third-party websites or unofficial links that claim to provide SDAT property records, as these may not be secure.

DoIT's Office of Security Management continues to advise all Marylanders to practice cybersecurity best practices.

- **Update Software on All Devices**

It is critically important to regularly update software to ensure that your devices are equipped with the latest security features and patches. This helps protect your devices from potential security threats and vulnerabilities.

- **Recognize Phishing and Suspicious Websites**

Phishing attempts can include deceptive emails, texts, or websites designed to trick users into revealing sensitive information such as passwords, financial details, or personal data. They often mimic legitimate organizations, like banks or government agencies. Phishing emails, texts, or websites may ask for personal information or prompt you to click on suspicious links. Be cautious. Do not input personal data or click suspicious links.

- **Install and Maintain Endpoint Protection**

Protect your personal devices by installing a reputable endpoint protection solution and keeping it up to date. These tools help detect, block, and remove malicious software, including viruses, ransomware, and spyware, before they can cause harm. Look for solutions from well-known security vendors and ensure automatic updates and real-time scanning are enabled. Regularly running scans on your devices adds an additional layer of defense against evolving cyber threats.

- **Update Passwords**

Use unique and complex passwords for all personal and work accounts to enhance online security. Password managers make it much easier to manage long, complex passwords for each of your accounts

- **Enable Multi-Factor Authentication**

Multi-factor authentication adds an extra layer of security by requiring multiple forms of verification to access an account. Enabling multi-factor authentication can greatly reduce the risk of unauthorized access to accounts.

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About SDAT

The Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) delivers fair and transparent property assessments, business registration, and property tax relief resources while fostering housing affordability, generational wealth, and business growth across Maryland.

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