



TeleTips For Smart Consumers

Tips For A Safer And More Secure Cell Phone

(NAPSA)—The call for more cell phone safety may be answered by following these tips to avoid device theft and keep passwords secure.

Avoiding Loss

Mobile devices often contain confidential data, important contacts, appointments, photos, even passwords. To help make certain your mobile device and the information it contains doesn't get in the wrong hands:

- Never leave a mobile device unattended.

- Never leave a mobile device visible in your car.

- Take extra care when you can be distracted such as at ATMs, airline ticket counters, on public transportation or while listening to headphones.

Many carriers have programs that save wireless phone information. For example, Verizon Wireless offers a service that saves a copy of your phone's address book to a secure Web site. You can restore your saved address book to a new phone—wirelessly. Most carriers also offer wireless insurance coverage through independent insurance companies, which will replace phones and accessories if they are lost or stolen.

Keeping IDs And Passwords Secure

To help make sure your passwords are never compromised:

- Make passwords easy to remember but difficult for anyone else to guess.

- Passwords should not contain names of anyone close to you.

- Passwords should not follow



To beat identity theft, don't use the same password for every system that requires one—all your accounts could be compromised.

keyboard patterns such as "qwerty" or "12345."

- Don't use the same password for every system that requires one—all your accounts could be compromised.

- Never give your passwords to anyone electronically—E-mail, IM and wireless devices are often monitored for this type of information.

- Never write down your passwords and store them in your work or other area that's not secure.

- Passwords should not contain words or numbers that can be linked to you. Don't use any form of your name, license plate, phone numbers, Social Security number, or a birthday.

Keep these simple, but important tips in mind and you can keep your wireless phone and other personal information safer and more secure.