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## NEWS

# FBI Special Agent Urges Online Self-Awareness

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With cyber attacks becoming more commonplace, Federal Bureau of Investigation experts are urging consumers to be more aware of information shared online.

FBI Special Agent Shun Turner is assigned to the bureau's National Security squad and specializes in computer intrusion matters with an emphasis on state-sponsored intrusions and cyberterrorism. Throughout his career, he has investigated multiple federal crime violations, including child pornography, human trafficking, counter terrorism, counter intelligence and a myriad of other cybercrime violations.

During remarks at the Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce First Friday breakfast at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith campus, Turner spoke of computer intrusions and cyber threats and outlined how Internet users can make themselves and their families safer online.

"It's you who is the target (of hackers), not your computer," Turner said. "We are seeing a heightened increase in cyber threats, so keep your personal information to yourself. Secure your computer like it's your house."

Threats of cyber attacks are increasing and Turner offered tips to beef up online security, including limiting information posted onto social media platforms, using strong passwords and changing them frequently, using a firewall and anti-virus software and keeping computers and hand-held mobile devices up to date.

Turner listed cyber espionage, or the use of computer networks to gain illicit access to confidential information typically held by a government or other organization, as a major threat that concerns the FBI and added that attacks on cloud storage and smartphone databases as well as hacks into social media profiles are among the fastest growing cyber

attacks.

Online crimes against children are, unfortunately, also on the rise, Turner said.

Turner said far too often, the bureau sees instances of people in “trusting” positions, such as family members, church or youth ministers or other roles, who come into daily contact with children and take advantage of them. He urged parents to speak to their children and educate them about inappropriate behavior with adults.

Largely, Turner advised that anyone can be a victim of a cybercrime and encouraged the public to be mindful of its behavior while online.

“We have to understand that we are our own weakest link,” Turner said. “Be mindful of what you put out there, because once it’s out there, it’s out there. Google caches everything. The bad guys will find a way to make things harder for us, so you just need to be aware.”

Turner has been a special agent with the FBI since 2005 and works out of the Fayetteville residential office of the Little Rock Field Division.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in computer information systems from the University of Arkansas and has a master’s degree in strategic intelligence from the National Defense Intelligence College. He previously worked at the FBI Cyber Division Headquarters, managing all of the FBI’s cyberterrorism matters. He also worked the St. Louis Division, working primary cybercrime matters.