

**Media Contact**

Lindsay Goodspeed
PCI Security Standards Council
+1-781-258-5843
<a href="mailto:press@pcisecuritystandards.org">press@pcisecuritystandards.org</a>
Twitter @PCISSC

**PCI Security Standards Council Champions Data Privacy Day**

-- Free Security Awareness Training and New Educational Resources on Ransomware Prevention and E-commerce Best Practices --

**WAKEFIELD, Mass., 25 January 2017** — Increasing reports of cyberattacks underscore the need for data security to be a top business priority. As the authority on global payment card data protection, the PCI Security Standards Council is an official champion for Data Privacy Day (28 Jan), the [National Cyber Security Alliance's initiative](#) to raise awareness and encourage global collaboration on data protection.

To support this effort, the Council will offer a free PCI Awareness eLearning to the first 1,000 people to register during the 24 hour period 26 January – 27 January. PCI Awareness training helps companies educate employees who handle cardholder data on the fundamentals of payment security. It is one of a suite of training offerings developed by the Council to train, test, and qualify organizations and individuals on PCI Security Standards. Learn more about the training offering by visiting the [Council's special landing page](#).

The Council also announces the release of two new cybersecurity resources to educate businesses on data protection:

- [Defending Against Ransomware](#) provides tips and resources for protecting against the fastest growing malware threat today.
- [Best Practices for Securing E-commerce](#) can help online businesses understand their threats, in light of growing card-not-present (CNP) fraud, and determine the best resources and solutions to protect their data. The resource was developed by a PCI Special Interest Group, and will be available on the PCI SSC website on 31 January.

“The Council’s participation as a Data Privacy Day champion emphasizes our commitment to educate the marketplace on payment security best practices,” says Stephen Orfei, General Manager of PCI SSC. “Our adversaries are persistent in their quest to obtain cardholder data. The Council will continue to work with stakeholders around the world to create standards and best practices that secure the future of payments in stores, online and on mobile devices.”

**About the PCI Security Standards Council**

The [PCI Security Standards Council](#) is a global forum that is responsible for the development, management, education, and awareness of the PCI Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) and other standards that increase payment data security. Connect with the PCI Council on [LinkedIn](#). Join the conversation on Twitter [@PCISSC](#). Subscribe to the [PCI Perspectives Blog](#).

###