



Customer Education & Security Awareness Notice

Security Precautions & Procedures Relating to your Commercial Banking Relationship with NCB

Introduction

National Cooperative Bank, N.A. ("NCB") employs numerous security procedures and other safeguards to protect your information, but we need your help to make your accounts and transactions as safe and secure as possible. This document highlights security precautions that you can take to help protect your accounts, as well as the numerous security procedures NCB has established for its business customers. Working together, we can strengthen the protection of your critical information and reduce the risk of fraud.

How You Can Protect Your Accounts

One of the largest risks to our business customers is Corporate Account Takeover Fraud, a form of corporate identity theft in which a company's online banking credentials – usernames, passwords, security questions, etc. – are stolen by malware loaded onto the customer's computers. Criminal entities can then initiate fraudulent banking activity, including wire transfers and ACH payments, on the customer's accounts using the Bank's security procedures. Therefore, it is critical that you guard against such attacks to your company's computers and systems. The steps outlined below will help guard against attacks, and we recommend that you discuss them with your IT team and train your employees regularly, as the diligence of your employees is often a critical factor in stopping an attack before it starts.

Another serious risk is called Business Email Compromise fraud, in which a criminal outsider generates an email to a customer's accounts payable team that appears to be from the customer's CEO or CFO directing the team to pay a fraudulent invoice. Again, ensuring your email is secure and your employees are trained to be on the lookout for these and similar frauds can limit or stop a loss.

General Operating System Precautions:

- » Ensure that you use current anti-virus and anti-malware products to protect yourself against malicious software that is created for the specific purpose of gathering information such as user ID, password, and other critical information that may be stored on your computer.
- » Practice safe internet use. Never click on pop-up messages or links to applications contained in emails. Train your employees regularly with respect to avoiding embedded links and manually going to links that are sent to you. It is estimated that over 80% of malware is obtained from clicking on pop-up ads.
- » Be suspicious of emails claiming to be from a financial institution, government department, or other businesses requesting account information, account verification, or banking access credentials such as usernames, passwords, PIN codes and similar information.
- » Use caution when opening attachments and ensure they were sent from a trusted source.
- » Be suspicious of any proposed transaction that requires you to send an advance payment or deposit by wire transfer.
- » Consider designating a dedicated "locked down" computer to accommodate online banking transactions. The dedicated computer should not be used for email or any other internet activities. This precaution minimizes the opportunity to download malware.
- » Install a dedicated, actively managed firewall, especially if you have a broadband or dedicated connection to the Internet, such as DSL or cable. A firewall limits the potential for unauthorized access to computer networks and computers.

» Ensure a vulnerability and patch management process is in place to keep your computer software current and can mitigate new vulnerabilities.

Account and Password Precautions:

» NCB's online banking system, Treasury 24/7, requires strong passwords and those passwords must be changed frequently. You should also require passwords to access any of your computer systems and should apply similar requirements. This will help prevent unauthorized use or access, which can lead to bank fraud.

» Ensure all employees' passwords as well as account information and security responses, are not written where they can be seen or accessed by others. If the information must be written down, it should be secured under lock and key when not being used.

» Your employees should never share their NCB username or password with anyone for any reason. If it is compromised, contact us to have the ID and/or password disabled or reset.

» The Treasury 24/7 application will timeout after a set period of inactivity. You should also make sure your computers have a password protected screensaver with a timeout feature to help prevent unauthorized access to your systems.

» Similarly, Treasury 24/7 does not permit automatic login features that save usernames or passwords, and you should avoid any such features across your computer systems.

General Business Practices:

» Reconcile your banking transactions daily and look for unusual small amounts such as penny transactions. This may be an indication that your account has been compromised and a fraudulent plan is in progress.

» Never access bank, brokerage, or other financial services information at internet cafes, public libraries, etc. Unauthorized software may have been installed to trap account numbers and sign on information leaving you vulnerable to fraud.

» Immediately escalate knowledge of any suspicious transaction to us. Some forms of transactions, such as fraudulent ACH instructions, can be stopped if notice is received in time. Vigilance and immediate action in the event of suspicious transactions or activity is critical.

» Talk to your insurance provider about adding cyber insurance terms to your business insurance policy.

12 Tips for Protecting Your Mobile Device

As the use of mobile devices continues to climb, cyber criminals are targeting mobile devices more frequently. With the increase in mobile device usage, mobile banking has become more common. It's easy to forget that your mobile device can be vulnerable, but any device connected to the internet is at risk. NCB suggests the following tips:

» Use the biometric features such as face or finger print reader on your smartphone. The use of passcodes should be used on other devices.

» Log out completely when you finish a mobile banking session.

» Protect your phone from viruses and malicious software, or malware, just like you do for your computer by installing mobile security software.

» Use caution when downloading apps. Apps can contain malicious software, worms, and viruses. Beware of apps that ask for unnecessary "permissions."

» Download the updates for your phone and mobile apps.

» Avoid storing sensitive information like passwords or a social security number on your mobile device.

» Tell your financial institution immediately if you change your phone number or lose your mobile device.

» Be aware of shoulder surfers. The most basic form of information theft is observation. Be aware of your surroundings especially when you're punching in sensitive information.

» Wipe your mobile device before you donate, sell or trade it using specialized software or using the manufacturer's recommended

technique. Some software allows you to wipe your device remotely if it is lost or stolen.

» Beware of mobile phishing. Avoid opening links and attachments in emails and texts, especially from senders you don't know. And be wary of ads (not from your security provider) claiming that your device is infected.

» Watch out for public Wi-Fi. Public connections aren't very secure, so don't perform banking transactions on a public network. If you need to access your account, try disabling the Wi-Fi and switching to your mobile network. Consider using a Virtual Private Network (VPN) app to secure and encrypt your communications when connecting to a public Wi-Fi network. (See the Federal Trade Commission's tips for selecting a VPN app.)

» Report any suspected fraud to your bank immediately. Log into your bank account often to check any charges on your credit or debit card and report any suspected fraud to your bank as soon as possible.

NCB's SECURITY PROCEDURES

Listed below are various security procedures relating to your accounts at NCB (unless modified or waived in writing). These security procedures are designed to ensure that payment and other instructions provided to us relating to your account are properly authorized by you, and under our account and service agreements, we are entitled to rely on transaction and payment orders originated using these procedures. This is why it is so important that you take steps, such as those set out above, to protect your computer systems and credentials.

Usernames and Passwords - When you sign up for Treasury 24/7 online access, NCB asks you to create a company-wide username and password that must be entered to access the company's accounts. In addition, each employee or other representative with access to the accounts has an individual username and password that must be used. We strongly recommend that you do not use your company Tax ID number as your company login name and that none of your employees use their Social Security number as their username.

Security Questions - If a password needs to be reset or certain other changes made, the user will be prompted to answer security questions prior to NCB taking the action. Alternative password reset methods may also be used as prompted through the service.

Confirmed IP Address - If NCB's online system does not recognize the IP address of the computer being used to access the online banking system as being authorized for your Company, the system will require authorization through a separate channel.

Tokens - In order to transfer money outside of NCB through our online system, a user must enter a special code displayed on a token. This makes it much more difficult to access the system even if a username and password is compromised.

Dual Approvals - Also to transfer money outside of NCB through our online system, two users must authorize the payment. You may determine which of the Company's employees is authorized to initiate orders and which are authorized to approve them.

Timed log-off - Your company administrator determines when our system will automatically log you off due to inactivity. This reduces the risk of others accessing your information from your computer.

In addition to the above security procedures, NCB uses various firewalls and encryption to protect your accounts, and we are constantly updating these to make sure they remain current. We also use software to analyze transactions for unusual activity. Thus, you may get a fraud alert or other communication from NCB inquiring about a recent transaction. While such analytics cannot identify or prevent all fraudulent transfers, they can provide an additional layer of protection.

Should you have any questions or concerns, or believe you are a victim of fraud involving one of your NCB accounts, please contact our Internet Banking team at 1-800-322-1251.