



27 April 2023

# Cybercrime Prevention Flyer

## Unofficial Government Websites

A recent internet search identified an unofficial Department of Defense Secure Access File Exchange (DoD SAFE) website. The unofficial website, ending in .net, provided general information about DoD SAFE and contained links to other unofficial Army websites: enlisted evaluations, personnel records, and human resources. A deeper review of the unofficial websites detected multiple links to malware and spyware.

Inputting terms like “AKO,” “Tricare,” or “HRC Army” into a search engine is a common means of locating relevant information on the internet. However, the returned results may include unaffiliated websites that are not endorsed or sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD).

### BEST PRACTICES

**Check the URL.** Government websites typically use a .gov or .mil domain name and a secure connection, which can be spotted when the URL begins with https instead of http and the browser displays a padlock icon next to the URL.

**Avoid selecting sponsored links.** Typically, government websites will not appear as sponsored links after a web search.

**Find the resource you are looking for on the agency’s main website.** Most DoD agencies will house all their services and resources on their main website. For example, to safely find Army Human Resources Command services, visit <https://www.hrc.army.mil/>.

**Report unofficial websites.** If the unofficial website is Army-affiliated, report the website to CID using the Report A Crime button below. Also report unofficial websites to the [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency](#) and the [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#).

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Search Engine Optimization \(SEO\) Poisoning](#)

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To receive Cyber Directorate Cybercrime Prevention Flyers, send an email to: [CYDIntel@army.mil](mailto:CYDIntel@army.mil)

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