

SCAM REPORT
MILTON TOWNSHIP S.A.L.T. COUNCIL MEETING MAY 13, 2024

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Juice Jacking

Background

"Juice jacking" is a threat that presents a risk to travelers. The term refers to the method used by hackers to load malicious software onto free public charging stations in airports, hotel lobbies, coffee shops, shopping malls, and libraries. When a device is connected to an infected station for charging, criminals access personal information stored on the device. This is possible because the device's electrical power supply is transmitted over the same cable used for synchronizing data.

Ways to protect yourself

- Be sure the latest software updates are installed on your device to ensure you have the most recent security patches.
- Fully charge your device before leaving home to reduce the need to rely on public charging stations.
- Carry a portable charger (also known as a power bank or battery pack) and your own charging cord. This allows you to charge your device without using public stations.
- Charge your device at an electrical outlet when feasible. Data transmission does not occur through electrical circuits.
- Attach a data blocker to your charging cable when using a public station. This is a small device that allows charging while physically blocking data transfer. If a station is compromised with malware, your device is safe. To use a data blocker, connect the cable from your device to the blocker and connect the blocker to the charging port.
- Use your own charging cables. Avoid using unfamiliar cables you come across in public settings.
- Never leave your device unattended when charging at a public station. Leaving it unattended increases the risk of unauthorized access and threatens the security of the personal information on your device.

File a report with the following authorities if you are a victim

- Federal Trade Commission (FTC): [ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov)
- Federal Communications Commission (FCC): [fcc.gov](https://www.fcc.gov)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): [fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov)
- Illinois Attorney General Senior Citizens Consumer Fraud Hotline:
 - Phone: 1-800-243-5377
 - Email: seniorhelpline@ilag.gov
- Your local law enforcement agency

[Sources: FTC, National Geographic]