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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Department of Finance Named National Cyber Security Awareness Month 2015 "Champion"**

Boise, Idaho . . . Gavin Gee, Director of the Idaho Department of Finance announced today that the Department has become a "**Champion**" of **National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) 2015**. They will be joining a growing global effort among Cyber Security Awareness Month businesses, colleges and universities, government agencies, associations, nonprofit organizations and individuals to promote online safety awareness.

Celebrated every October, National Cyber Security Awareness Month was created as a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure everyone has the resources needed to stay safer and more secure online. As an official "Champion," the Idaho Department of Finance recognizes their commitment to cybersecurity and online safety.

"Our reliance on, and ever increasing use of technology in our daily lives could leave sensitive personal financial information more vulnerable to unwanted viewing or theft," said Gavin Gee, director of the Department of Finance. "Our department is undertaking several initiatives, such as NCSAM, to educate the financial services industry, investors and consumers about the increased importance of cyber security."

Coordinated and led by the **National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA)** and the **Department of Homeland Security**, NCSAM has grown exponentially since its inception, reaching consumers, small and medium-sized businesses, large corporations, educational institutions and young people across the nation and internationally. This year marks the 12<sup>th</sup> year of NCSAM.

"The Champion Program is a vital part of making National Cyber Security Awareness Month a success each year," said Michael Kaiser, executive director of the National Cyber Security Alliance. "We are thankful to our 2015 Champion organizations for their support and commitment to our shared responsibility of promoting cyber security and online safety awareness."

Valuable cybersecurity tips and information are posted and updated on the Department of Finance website <http://finance.idaho.gov>, Facebook, and Twitter pages.

For more information about National Cyber Security Awareness Month, the NCSAM Champions program, and how to participate in NCSAM activities, visit <http://www.staysafeonline.org/ncsam>. You can also follow and use the hashtag **#cyberaware** on Twitter throughout the month.

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*Department of Finance Press Releases and other information can be found on the Internet at [finance.idaho.gov](http://finance.idaho.gov) and may be obtained by contacting the department at (208) 332-8000 or Idaho toll-free at 1-888-346-3378.*