



**START
WITH**

SECURITY

LESSONS LEARNED FROM FTC CASES

START
WITH

SECURITY

A GUIDE FOR BUSINESS

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION | BUSINESS.FTC.GOV

1

Start with security.



1

Start with security.

- Don't collect personal information you don't need.
- Hold on to information only as long as you have a legitimate business need.
- Don't use personal information when it's not necessary.

2

Control access to data sensibly.



2

Control access to data sensibly.

- Restrict access to sensitive data.
- Limit administrative access.

3

Require secure passwords and authentication.

3

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- Insist on complex and unique passwords.
- Store passwords securely.
- Guard against brute force attacks.
- Protect against authentication bypass.

4

Store sensitive personal information securely and protect it during transmission.

4

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- Keep sensitive information secure throughout its lifecycle.
- Use industry-tested and accepted methods.
- Ensure proper configuration.

5

Segment your network and monitor who's trying to get in and out.

5

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- Segment your network.
- Monitor activity on your network.

6

Secure remote access to your network.

6

Secure remote access to your network.

- Ensure endpoint security.
- Put sensible access limits in place.

7

Apply sound security practices when developing new products.

7

Control access to data sensibly.

- Train your engineers in secure coding.
- Follow platform guidelines for security.
- Verify that privacy and security features work.
- Test for common vulnerabilities.

8

Make sure your service providers implement reasonable security measures.

8

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- Put it in writing.
- Verify compliance.

9

Put procedures in place to keep your security current and address vulnerabilities that may arise.

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- Update and patch third-party software.
- Heed credible security warnings and move quickly to fix them.

10

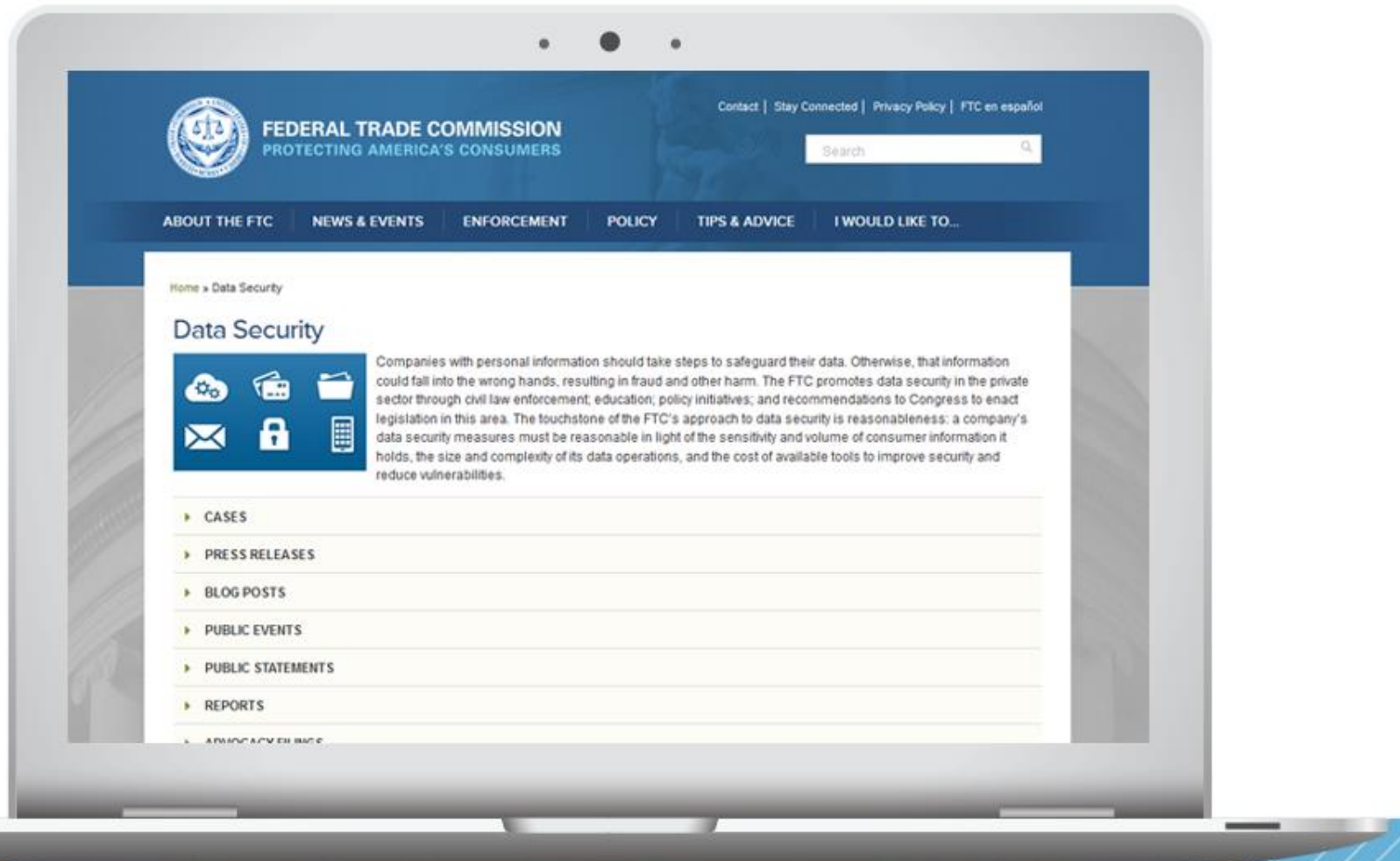
**Secure paper, physical media,
and devices.**

10

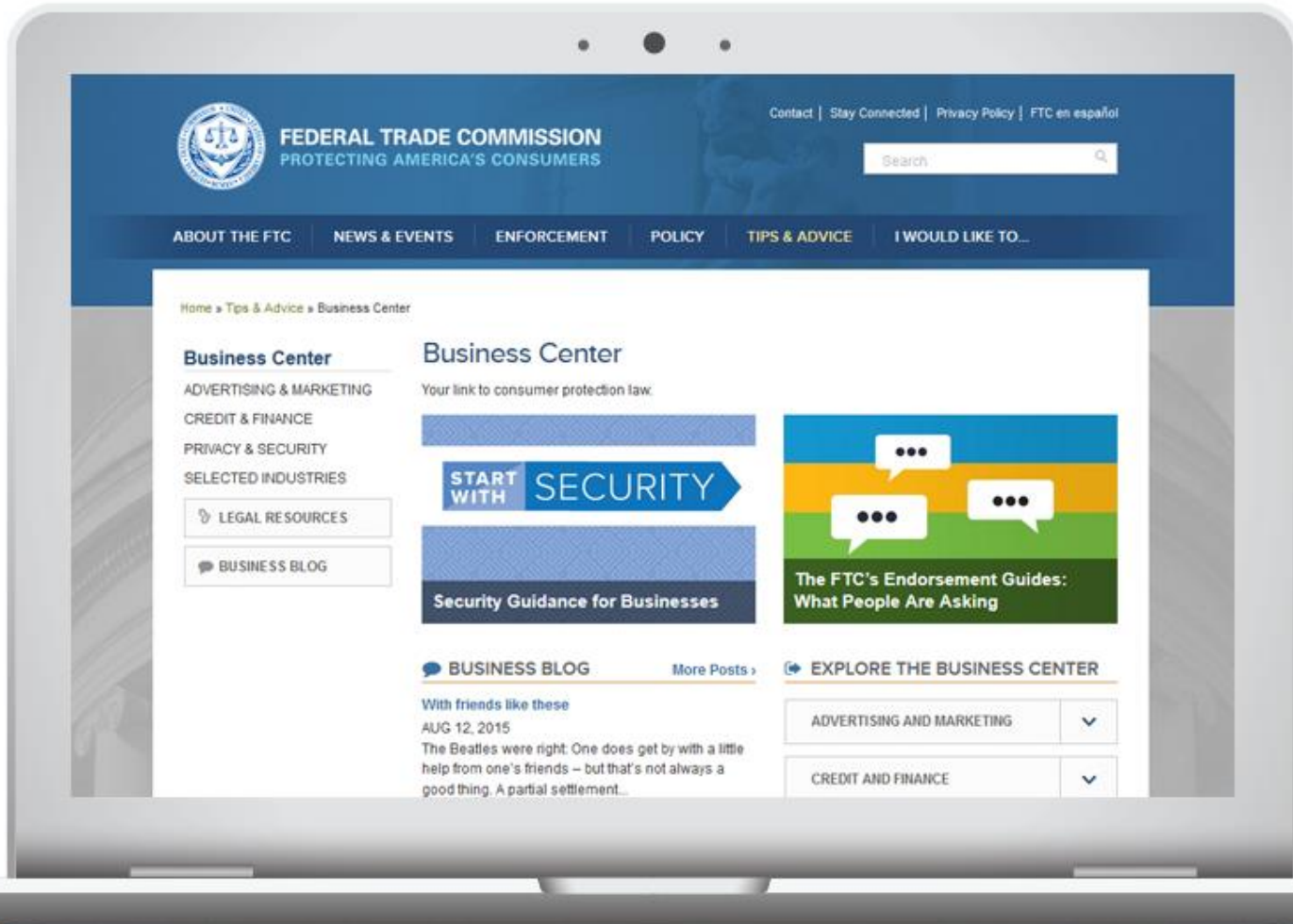
Secure paper, physical media, and devices.

- Securely store sensitive files.
- Protect devices that process personal information.
- Keep safety standards in place when data is en route.
- Dispose of sensitive data securely.

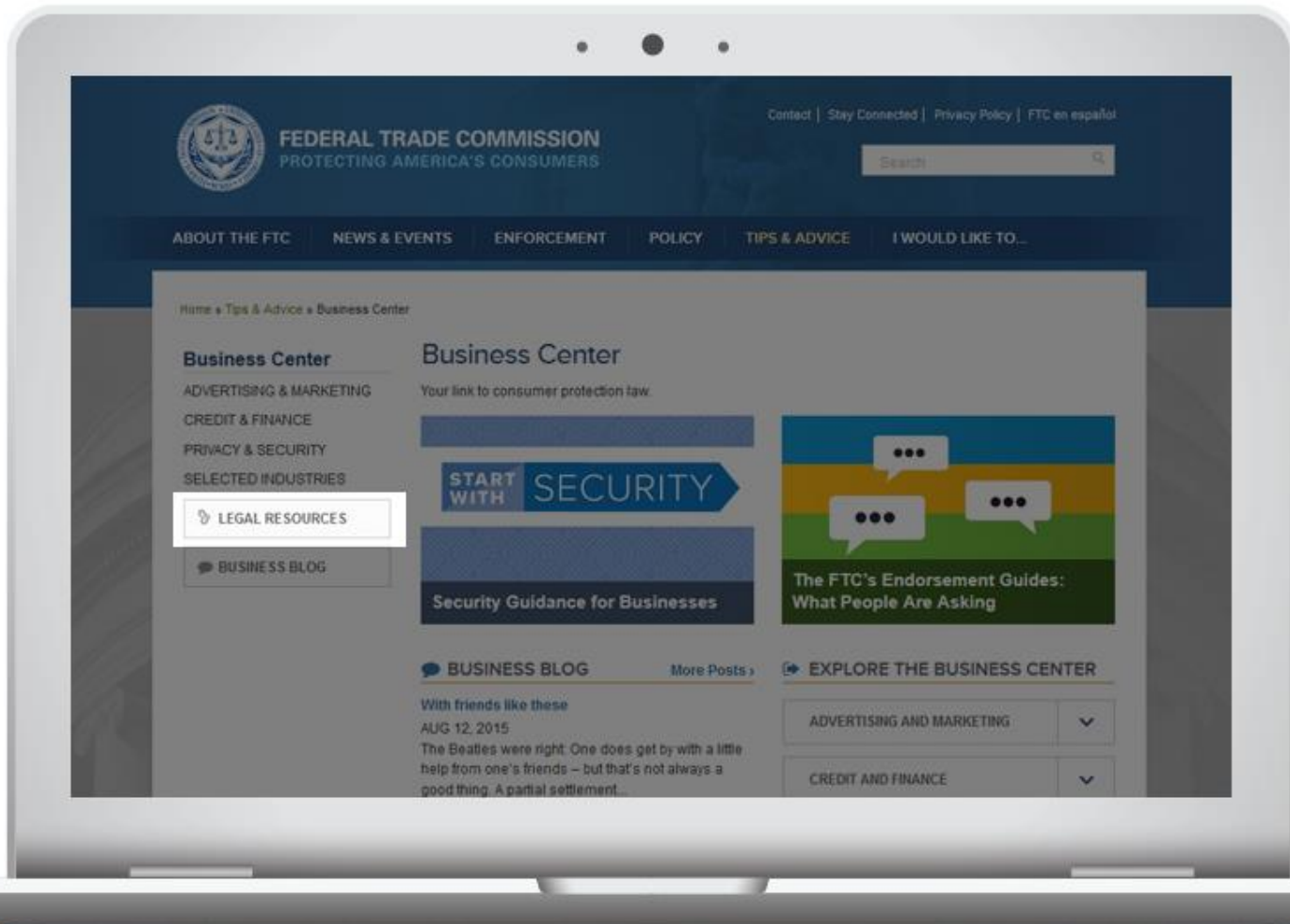
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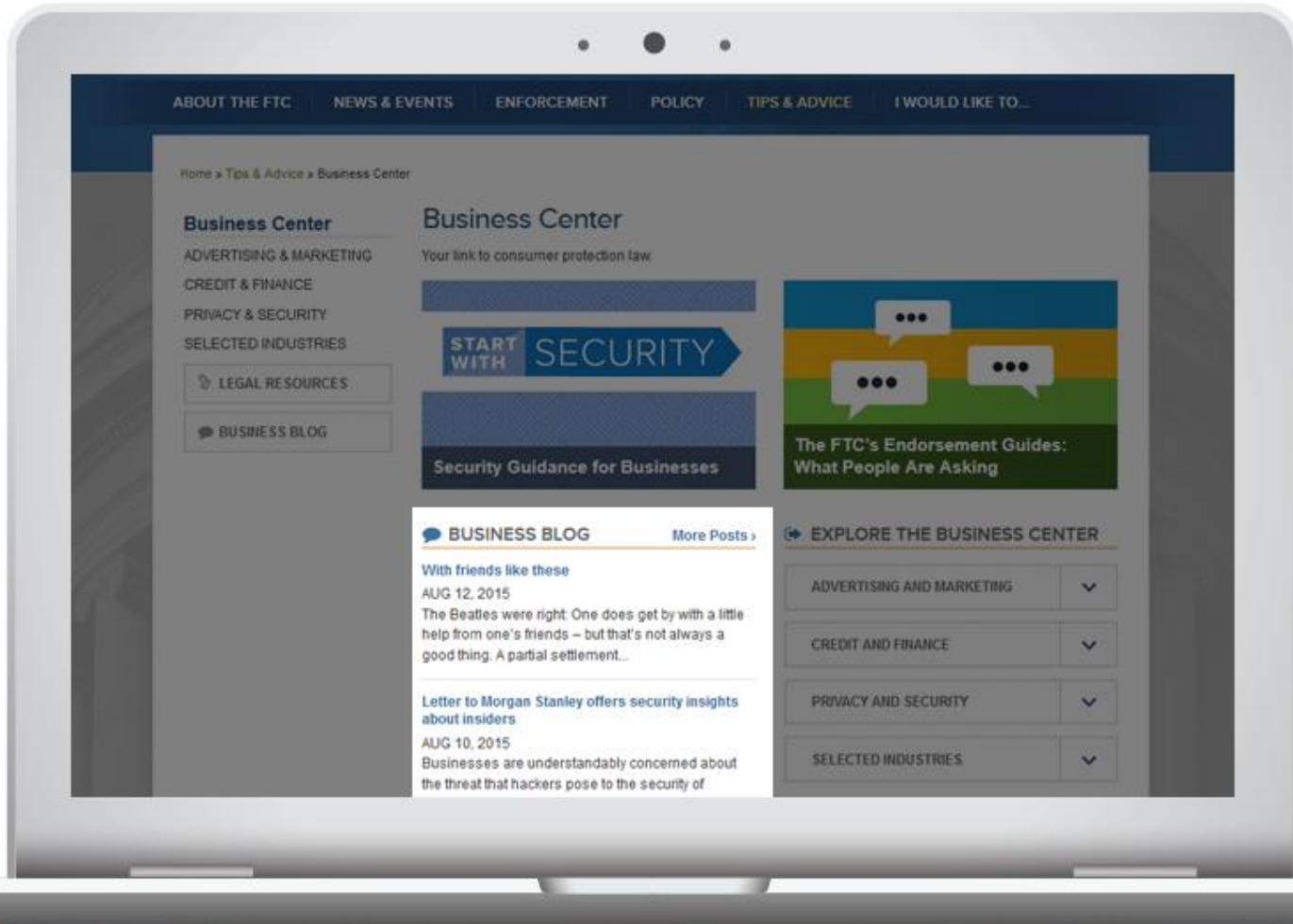
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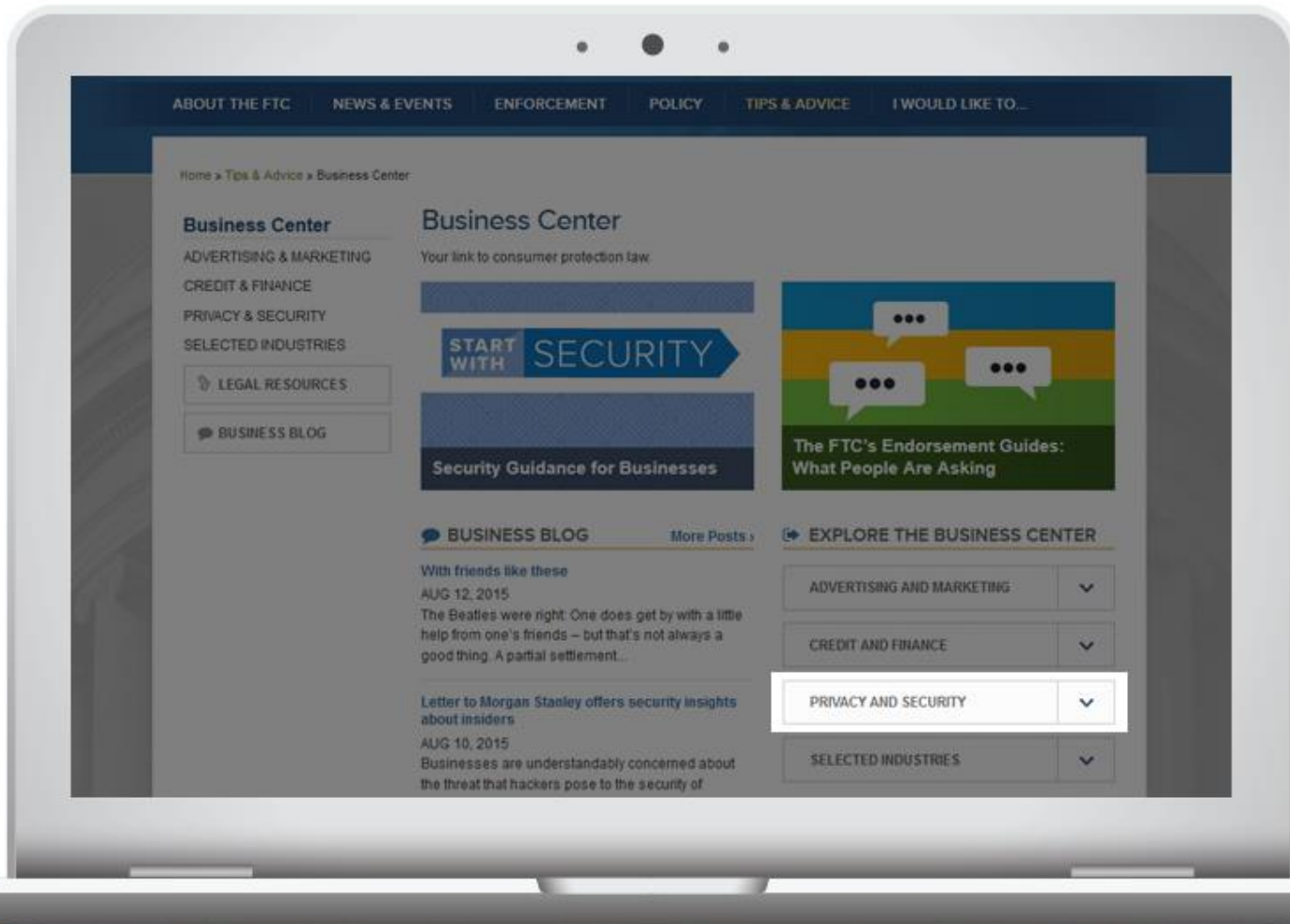
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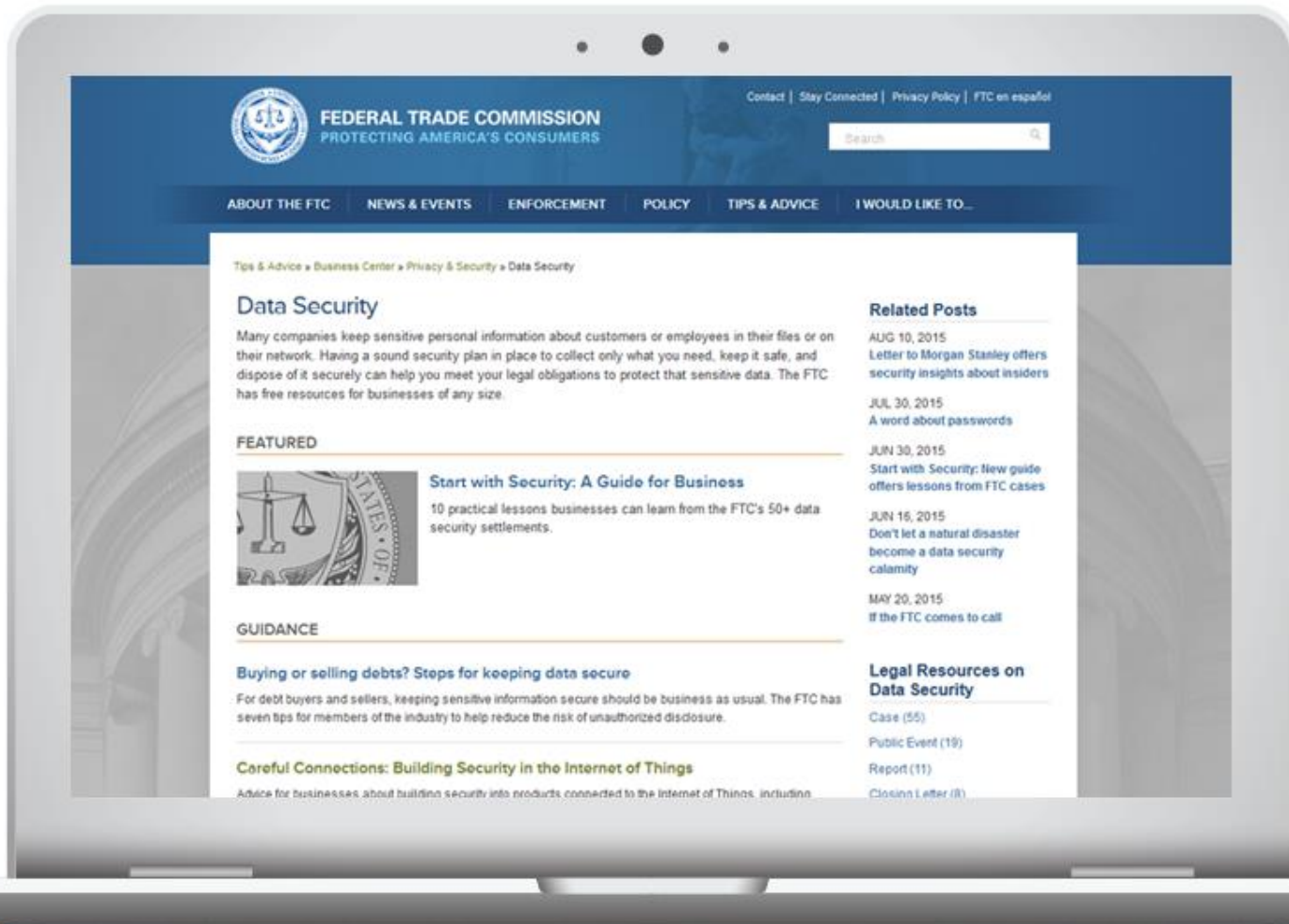
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Data Security

Many companies keep sensitive personal information about customers or employees in their files or on their network. Having a sound security plan in place to collect only what you need, keep it safe, and dispose of it securely can help you meet your legal obligations to protect that sensitive data. The FTC has free resources for businesses of any size.

FEATURED



Start with Security: A Guide for Business

10 practical lessons businesses can learn from the FTC's 50+ data security settlements.

GUIDANCE

Buying or selling debts? Steps for keeping data secure

For debt buyers and sellers, keeping sensitive information secure should be business as usual. The FTC has seven tips for members of the industry to help reduce the risk of unauthorized disclosure.

Careful Connections: Building Security in the Internet of Things

Advice for businesses about building security into products connected to the Internet of Things, including

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Legal Resources on Data Security

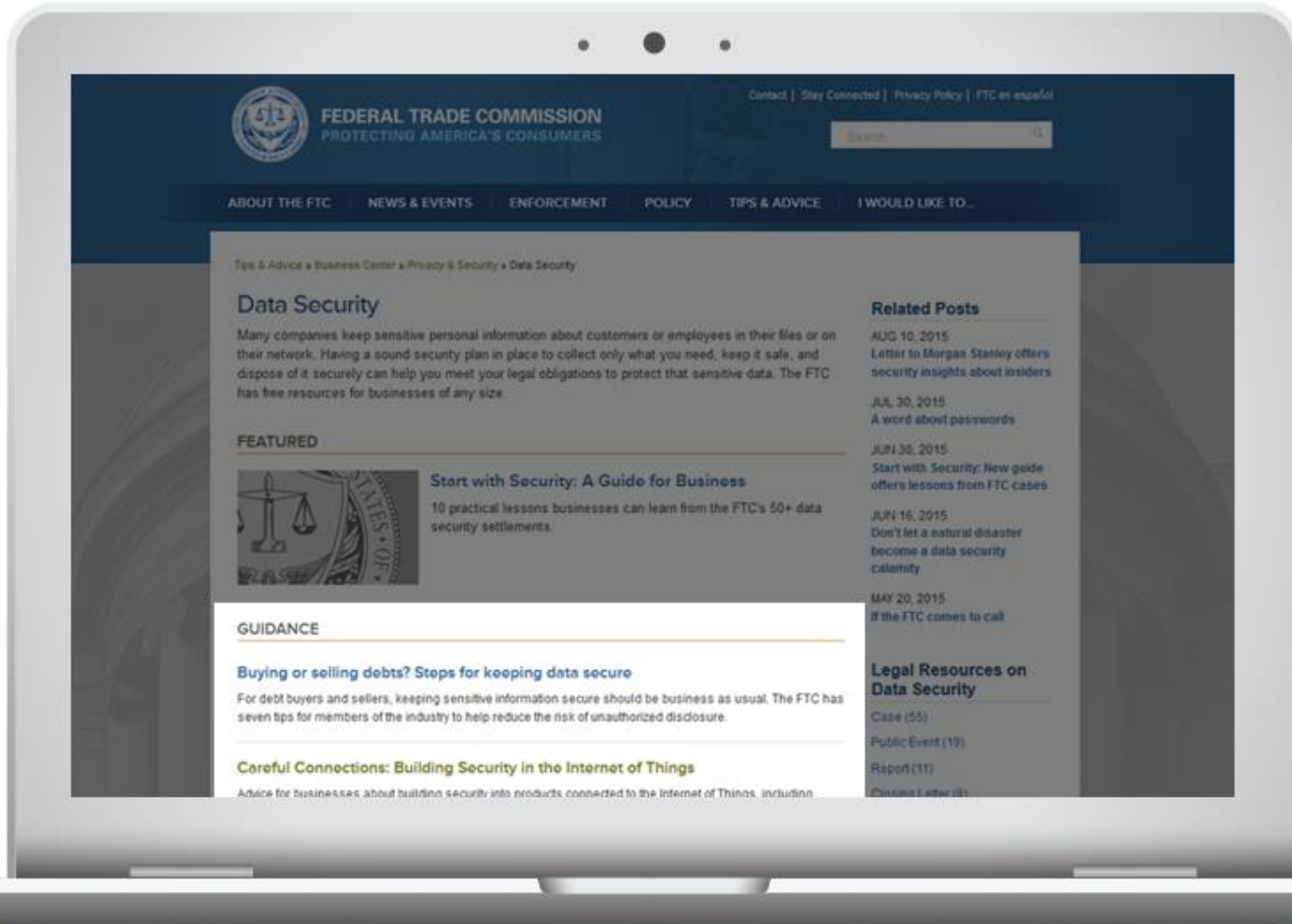
Case (55)

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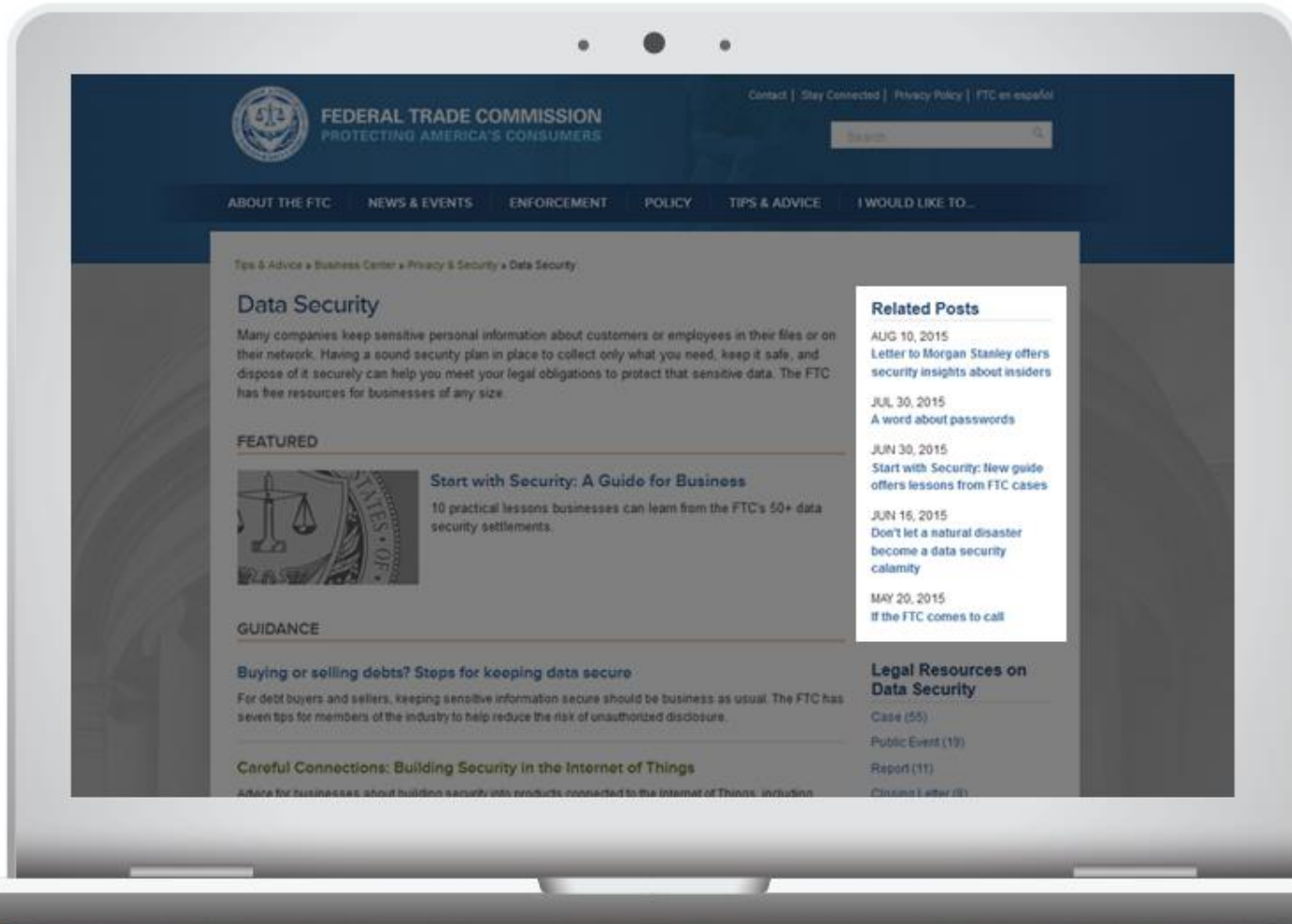
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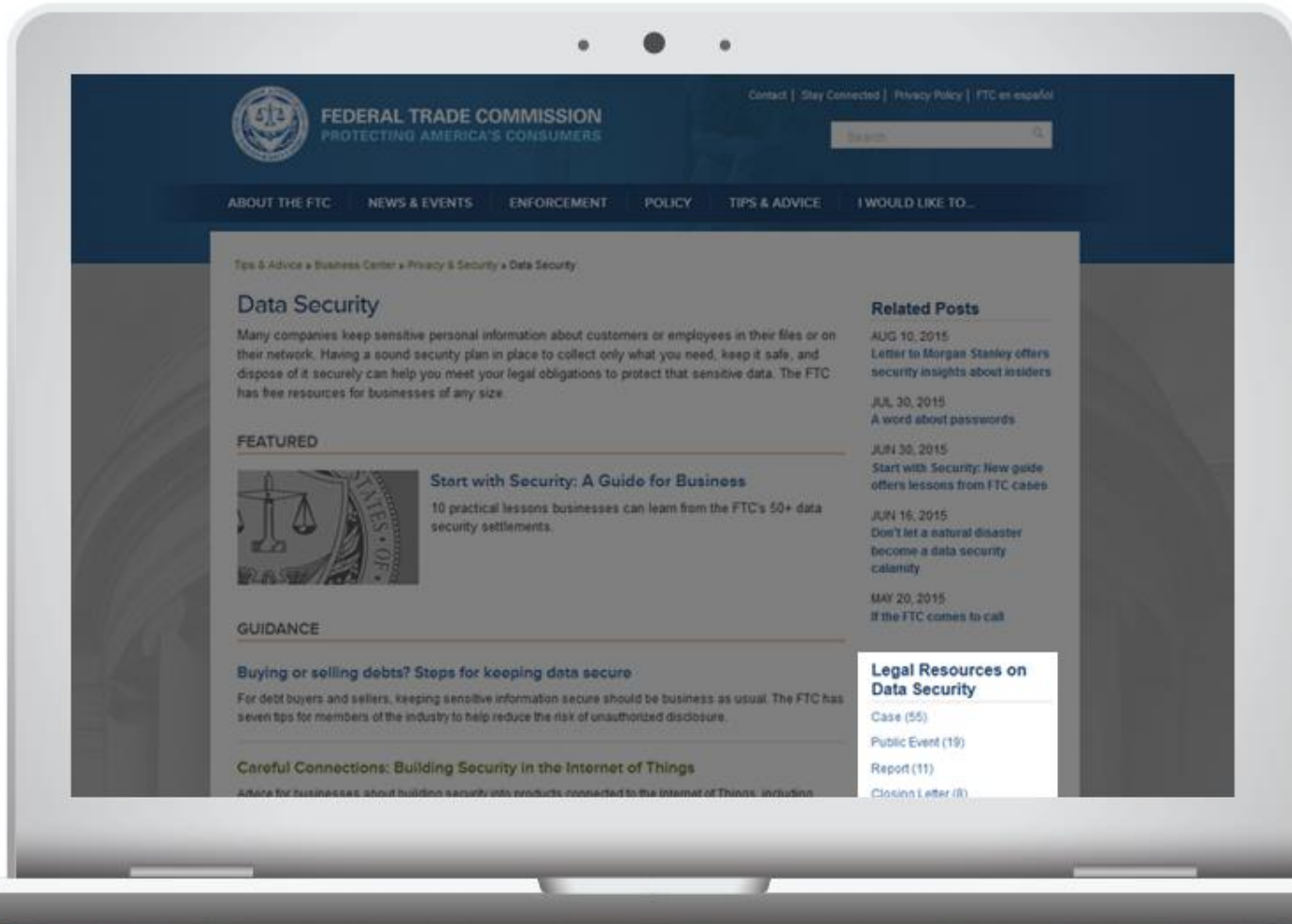
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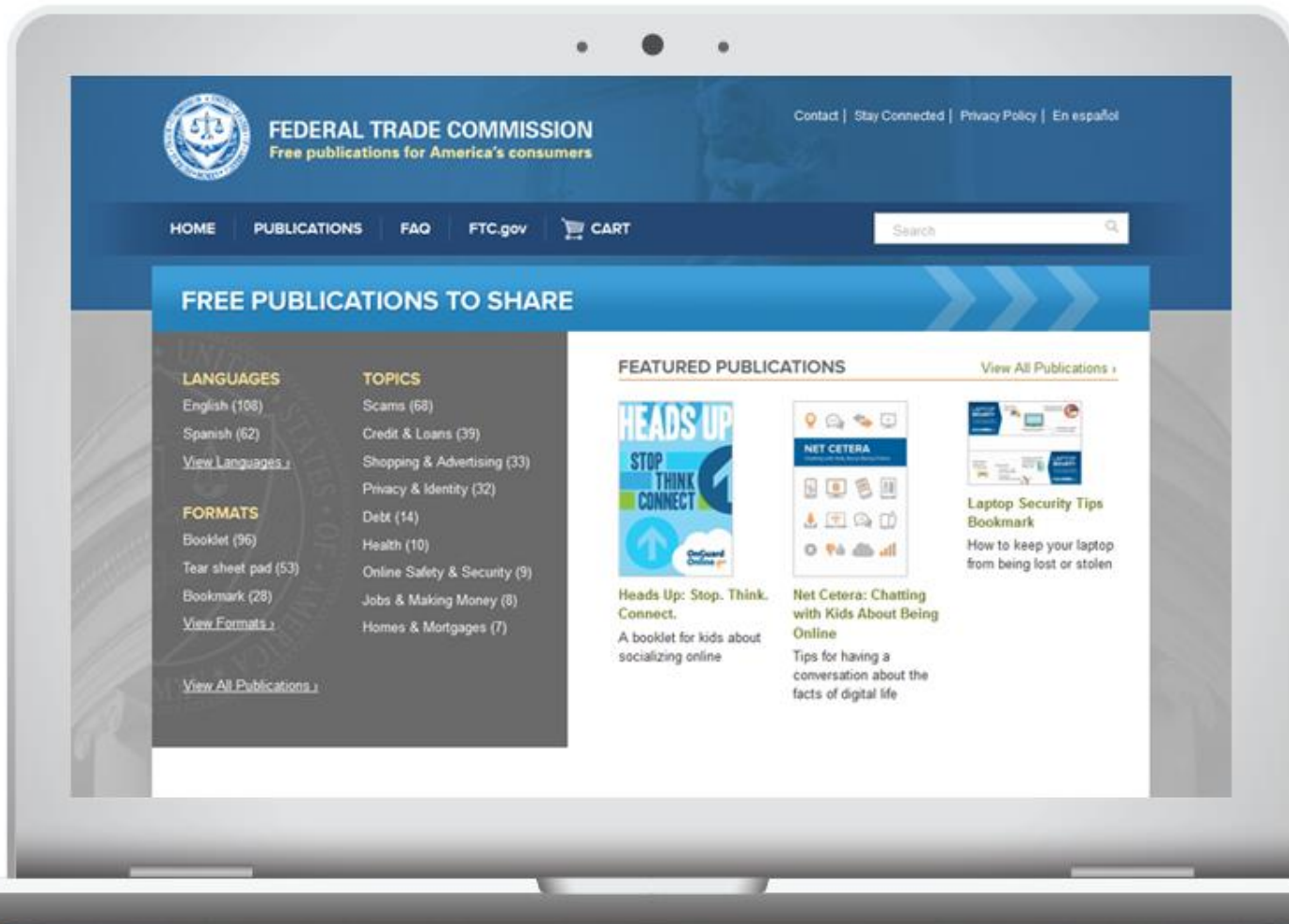
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