PNC Bank Offers Holiday Shopping Security Tips

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 24, 2015 – Keep your shopping experience merry and bright this holiday season, with a few tips from PNC Bank:

Know where your cards are at all times, and never leave your wallet or purse unattended.

• **Use only secure websites when shopping online.** Secure sites display a URL that begins with "https:" instead of "http:" and shows a locked padlock.

• **Dip instead of swipe**: If your bank has provided you with the new EMV, or chip, cards ask your merchant where you shop if new chip-enabled terminals are available for use. The new cards add an extra layer of security when you shop in a store by creating a one-time code that is impossible to steal.

• **Change your passwords.** Changing your passwords regularly can help prevent unauthorized access to your accounts. Identity thieves may steal user IDs and passwords from one website and use them to log into other sites.

• **Consider using digital wallets.** Tools such as <u>Visa Checkout</u>, <u>Apple Pay</u>TM, <u>Android Pay</u>TM or <u>Samsung Pay</u>TM offer an alternative to making online and in-store purchases. Your debit and credit card information is stored behind layers of security and utilizes token technology, depending on your tool of choice.

• Make sure your contact information with your bank is up to date and setup security alerts. If your bank suspects activity, they will reach out to you via your info on file. Also, you can sign up for additional alerts for large transactions, balances, foreign activity, etc.

• Monitor your account and review your account statements regularly. If you notice suspicious transactions when reviewing your account statements or online activity, immediately call the number on the back of your card.

For further information on security and fraud protection, visit the <u>PNC Security Assurance</u> page to learn more. Apple Pay is a trademark of Apple, Inc. Android Pay is a trademark of Alphabet, Inc, Samsung Pay is a trademark of Samsung, Inc. and Visa Checkout is operated by Visa U.S.A. Inc.

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