## UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**Routine:** (860) 768-7985 **EMERGENCY:** (860) 768-7777 Anonymous Tip Line: (860) 768-7827

## **Community Notification**

As our meetings, teaching and learning strategies continue to evolve, the Department of Public Safety would like to remind our community members to practice vigilance while our daily lives launch into the virtual world. That being said, cyber security threats are also evolving to the times and our department would like to provide our community members with the most up-to-date information and tips to keep safe while on the internet.

A common video conference platform being utilized for meetings, conferences, and distance learning is Zoom. Zoom enables its users to interact with other individuals either in a group setting or one-on-one via video-call. This application utilizes computer audio and video in order to help users interact more easily. Although Zoom is a great option as we adapt learning to the digital world, this platform like any other, comes with its learning curves in order to stay protected.

Like COVID-19 is novel to us, the term "Zoom Bombing" is also new. What this term essentially means is that during video conferences and classroom activities using any of the video-call platforms, a person may have the ability to join and disrupt your activities. To counteract this, please follow the below security guidelines when using a video platform for activities such as faculty/staff meetings and distance learning with students:

- "Join Before Host" option should be disabled: No one can join the session before the host is there.
- **"File Transfer" option should be disabled:** Malicious files cannot be distributed The recommendation is to share files using Google Drive/Docs.
- "Allow Removed Participants to Re-Join" should be disabled: Individuals who have been kicked out of the session cannot join back into the meeting.
- **"Disable Screen Sharing Ability":** To disable screen sharing ability, except for the host, go to *settings* > under *screen sharing* select: Host Only.

As always, please contact the Department of Public Safety with any questions and/or concerns at our routine phone number: (860) 768-7985. Continue to stay safe, healthy, and vigilant. We will get through these tough and rapidly-changing times together.

SEE SOMETHING – SAY SOMETHING Safety on Campus A Shared Responsibility