

# Message from the University's Privacy Officer

## New Executive Order and University Policies on the Horizon

On February 28, 2024, President Biden issued an Executive Order to improve the protection of Americans' sensitive personal data from countries of concern.

The executive order directs the Department of Justice to create new regulations setting standards and regulations for collecting, storing, processing, and sharing sensitive personal data.

The Office of Compliance, Investigations & Ethics will monitor the forthcoming rulemaking and work closely with Pitt IT, the Office of Research Protections, and other relevant units to ready the University community for its implications for our data practices and policies.

In addition, there are two policy committees creating University policies that will govern both privacy and security of restricted and private information at the University. We will provide more information and guidance to the University community in the near future. In the meantime, we ask you to be vigilant and responsible in handling sensitive personal data, especially when collaborating with foreign entities or individuals, or using third-party platforms or services. Please contact the Privacy Office at [compliance@pitt.edu](mailto:compliance@pitt.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to protecting the privacy and security of our University community.

Laurel Gift  
University Privacy Officer