

How to Prevent Hawaii Gov. David Ige's Password Mistake From Happening

By Gigi Kawar

On Jan. 13, 2018, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency sent a false missile alert that panicked citizens and tourists across the state. Some officials, including Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, the U.S. representative for Hawaii's second congressional district, immediately tweeted that it was a false alert.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige learned that the alert was false two minutes after it was sent; however, he waited 17 minutes to tweet "There is NO missile threat," according to The Washington Post.

"I have to confess that I don't know my Twitter account log-ons and the passwords, so certainly that's one of the changes that I've made," said Ige.

Falling into such a crisis can be stressful, especially when you do not want to keep your audience waiting. The importance of remembering your password is often overlooked, but as Ige showed us, it is necessary.

Here are seven options to try out that will never let forgetting your password hold up important information:

Download a Password Keeper app.

A password keeper is an app that users can install on their smartphone that allows them to store passwords for every platform. You only need to remember one password, which gives you access to all your other passwords. Most apps, such as 1Password, remember all your credentials. The platform encrypts your login information and updates your information on all of your devices automatically. Although most are free, some call for a small annual fee for advanced features.

If you are not comfortable storing your passwords on a drive, such as iCloud or OneDrive, some apps save and encrypt your information on your device and offer an optional drive storage service.

Check the "Remember me" Option

Almost all social media platforms use this feature. Although this option may not keep you signed in, it automatically puts in your password for you once you type your username or email. If you change your password, social media platforms will ask you before signing in if you would like it to remember your login credentials. As previously mentioned, this option allows other users using your device to access your information.

Check the ‘Stay Signed in’ Option

Before signing in, Outlook.com asks if you would like to stay signed in to reduce the number of times you have to input your username and password. Checking this option can ensure a faster login process, but keep in mind that users using your device may be able to access your information without having to know your login credentials.

Use a Four-Digit Passcode

Social media platforms on your smartphone, such as Facebook, are beginning to offer a more comfortable login process. When you type in your username and password on the Facebook app, you will notice a prompt that lets you create a four-digit passcode to log in instead of entering your email and password every time.

The Facebook app also recently added a one-tap login feature. When you log in to Facebook using your username and password for the first time, Facebook will ask if you would like to set up a one-tap login. This feature will let you log in by tapping on your profile picture. If you are worried about security issues, you can use your four-digit passcode.

Use Fingerprint or Facial Recognition

Smartphones, such as iPhone, Samsung, and Huawei, use fingerprint identification and facial recognition to access information. Also, some apps, including password keeper apps, are starting to use such features to allow users to access their data. Fingerprint identification and facial recognition features are faster, more secure, and much more efficient.

Consider Using Tools That Help you Manage Multiple Social Media Channels

If you have a company with a large social media base, there are some social media tools, such as HootSuite or Buffer, that allow organizations to manage multiple platforms through one dashboard. Such tools are easy to set up, provide user-friendly services, and are useful.

These management platforms let you schedule your posts, track your content's performance, and manage all your accounts at once. If you ever forget your password, you can easily post content through these platforms.

Do not Depend on one Platform to Send out Your Message

If you have an urgent message that needs to be sent out immediately, as in the case of Ige, do not count on one social media platform, such as Twitter. Consider using multiple social media platforms to send out an important message until you sort out your password situation for the channel you intended to use. Use Facebook, Instagram, or Snapchat to broadcast your message.

Keep in mind that content involving a crisis should be sent out through specialized emergency platforms with clear identity and authorization procedures.

Biography

Gigi Kavar is a junior at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, where she is pursuing a dual degree in public relations and psychology. Her work ranges from executing research and campaigns, writing for news and public relations in a digital age, and designing.

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