

PCI UPDATE FOR HUBZONE COUNCIL

February 25, 2013 Chicago, IL Hello Again Council members. I have a topic for this article that I hope you have some interest in..... PCI-DSS. This acronym stands for Payment Card Industry-- Data Security Standards. For any company out there that is doing business with their local or federal government and accepting credit cards as payment this acronym has been making its way into your consciousness in some degree. Every business that accepts credit cards in the US has to keep track of card data security at their point of sale and in their back office. Whoever you process your transaction through; you are responsible for compliance every year. It can be a worry that takes time and capital away from running your business. GSACREDITCARDPROCESSING.COM can help.

We help our clients quickly and easily understand the nuances of PCI-DSS compliance and then walk your representative through the steps needed to acquire yearly compliance. Our fee is competitive and includes the Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ), attestation, any needed network scans and Validation. The worry is gone and you can concentrate on what you do best.

Let's walk through the steps for PCI compliance and you can use this as a blueprint/roadmap for your business.

1. Find/Choose a Qualified Security Assessor (QSA) that works with your card processor and enroll in their PCI Compliance program.
2. Determine your 'Merchant Type' based on your business industry, how many transactions you process each year and how you process those transactions. (swiped/phone orders/PC/web store)
3. Proceed with the SAQ questionnaire for your merchant type and make sure you can answer "YES" to every question. (attestation)
4. Facilitate the Quarterly scans if needed and get your compliance result.
5. Validate that positive compliance with your card processor. Each compliance report is good for one year.

That is my take on the new PCI compliance requirements that all businesses that accept card payments are responsible for.....thanks for your time. If you have any questions please give me or my staff a call at 708 449 1010.