

# Commonwealth Independent Advisor



## Vetting Your Vendors: A Guide to Performing Due Diligence

Posted by Andy Boncoddio

July 3, 2019 at 1:30 PM

In a world that seems to grow more prone to [data breaches](#) and identity theft by the day, what can you do to protect not only your own information, but that of your clients as well? Your clients entrust you with a lot of sensitive data, so it's important that the vendors you work with have safeguards in place to keep this data secure. In fact, the law *requires* due diligence of business owners who have access to, maintain, or store consumers' sensitive information.



Topics: Information Security

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## 8 Tips for Developing a Security Awareness Program

Posted by Commonwealth Financial Network

July 2, 2019 at 10:00 AM

When you hear the words "[information security](#)," firewalls, antivirus programs, and multifactor authentication may come to mind. But what you might not think about is the one major vulnerability that every security system has: *people*.



Topics: Information Security

## Going Roth: Strategies to Maximize Savings for 401(k) Clients

Posted by Allen Cohen

June 26, 2019 at 1:30 PM

Roth 401(k)s have only recently gained traction with plan sponsors, despite the fact that both the Roth IRA and the 401(k) plan have been around for decades. As of 2018, according to the [Callan Institute Defined Contribution Trends Survey](#), 85 percent of 401(k) plans now have a Roth option, up from 68 percent in 2016.



Topics: Retirement Consulting

## Outside the Box: Alternative Retirement Savings Options

Posted by Michael Clifford

June 25, 2019 at 10:00 AM

As of March 2018, only 51 percent of working Americans in the private sector had access to a defined contribution retirement plan (i.e., a 401(k) plan), according to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#). In establishments with fewer than 100 employees, that number was just 46 percent. That's a large percentage of the population without access to traditional retirement savings options. With

studies suggesting that Americans currently have a savings deficit and today's employees less likely to stay with one company for their entire career, it's imperative as an advisor to ensure that clients have a backup plan so they continue to save on a regular basis. To start, you need to understand your clients' individual situations, and your clients need to be aware of alternative methods to save for retirement.



Topics: Retirement Consulting

## Ready to Grow Your Advisory Business? Try These Actionable Ideas

Posted by Kristine McManus

June 19, 2019 at 1:30 PM

So, you want to grow your advisory business—that much you know. But where should you begin? It all depends on where you are now and how quickly you want to achieve the growth you envision. To help you get started, try one (or more!) of the actionable ideas below.



Topics: Practice Management

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