The holiday shopping season is upon us, and online shopping is in full force. Many customers now search for the perfect gift and great deals from the comfort of their home. Unfortunately, the season of giving also brings the increased risk of data theft. There are various techniques hackers use to steal money, and it needs to be an ongoing focus of our profession, "Diversity helps us better serve our clients, and is being replicated across the country," stated Kurt Tunnell, managing partner for Bricker & Eckler and chair of the Managing Partners Diversity Initiative Advisory Committee.

The Managing Partners Diversity Initiative was first created in 2001, when the Columbus legal community made a historic public pledge to significantly increase the racial diversity of its ranks. Twenty of the city’s largest law firms joined the Columbus Bar Association, the John Mearc Langston Bar Association, which is comprised primarily of African American attorneys, and the two area law schools, the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and Capital University Law School. Together, they signed a five-year commitment to attract minority law candidates to the city, increase the number of minorities hired out of law school and create an atmosphere that encourages minority attorneys to advance in their firms and ultimately become partners.

Over the last 15 years, firms reported significant increases in attorneys of color at many levels compared to 2000, when the first year statistics were collected. While these are promising indications, participants agree they are nowhere near our ultimate vision of true diversity and inclusion. Today’s 23 participating law firms are committed to recruiting, hiring, training, retaining and ultimately becoming partners. pledging to achieve meaningful, measurable and lasting progress toward greater inclusion of minority legal talent.

The Managing Partners Diversity Plan has received numerous awards in recent years and is being replicated across the country.

Directions to the Columbus Bar website, Columbus Bar website, Visit the Columbus Bar website, and the Columbus Bar website.

The CBA Marketplace is designed to give users the tools needed to easily navigate through the shopping process and confidently choose the best coverage based on their healthcare needs and budget.

Those interested can create an account on the CBA Marketplace by visiting the Columbus Bar website, www.cbalaw.org.

**Managing Partners Diversity Initiative Law Firm Partners:**

- Bailey Cavalieri LLC
- BakerHostetler LLP
- Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP
- Bricker & Eckler LLP
- Carleke Patchen & Murphy LLP
- Carpenter, Lipp & Leland LLP
- Crabbé, Brown & James
- Dinsmore & Shohl
- Frost Brown Todd LLC
- Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
- Ice Miller, LLP
- Legal Counsel
- Isaac Wiles, Burkeholder & Tozer LLP
- Jones Day
- Kegler Brown, Hill & Ritter
- Maguire & Schneider, LLP
- Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP
- Reminger Co., LLP
- Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP
- Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
- Thompson Hine LLP
- Werry Satter Seymour and Pease LLP

**Healthcare open enrollment deadline Dec. 15**

Through the Affordable Care Act, Americans now have access to healthcare marketplaces. Those seeking new coverage can apply for insurance beginning Nov. 1, for coverage that starts on Jan. 1, 2017. The deadline to apply is Dec. 15.

Even those who are currently covered are encouraged to update their expected income and household information. If expected income has changed, there is a possibility that an individual’s premium tax credit will change for 2017.

Through Wills and ConnectedHealth, the Columbus Bar Association created a unique Columbus Bar Association Marketplace, an online marketplace where members and their employees can shop for individual and family health insurance, as well as vision, dental, identity protection, accident insurance, and critical illness coverage.

The CBA Marketplace is designed to give users the tools needed to easily navigate through the shopping process and confidently choose the best coverage based on their healthcare needs and budget.

Those interested can create an account on the CBA Marketplace by visiting the Columbus Bar website, www.cbalaw.org.