

TIP OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER 2009

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE DPA

Individuals have rights under the Data Protection (Privacy of Personal Information) Act, 2003, (DPA) which give them greater control over the way their personal information is handled.

As an individual, the DPA allows you to:-

- know **why** personal information is being collected and **how** it will be used.
- ask for **access** to your records (including your health information).
- stop receiving unwanted **direct marketing** material.
- **correct** inaccurate information about you.
- ensure your information is only **used** for purposes you have been told about.

Indeed, section 8 of the DPA mandates that any individual making a written request to a Data Controller has a right, within 40 days to:-

- Be informed by the Data Controller if the data kept on him include personal data relating to him.
- Be supplied with a copy of the information on him.

Be entitled to an explanation to such information, if appropriate.

Feel free to email us at dataprotection@bahamas.gov.bs