# Security and Ethical Concerns

# Protecting the privacy of customers is one of the top priorities for any project. When dealing with real estate data, there is quite a bit of sensitive information involved. Revealing data such as addresses or selling prices is fine in an abstract way, but once we tie a customer to these accounts the information becomes far more sensitive. If we allow everyone to view the address of each real estate property and who the stakeholders are (which bank, the individual who owns the property, etc.), this would entirely be a breach of privacy. Thus, we should limit the scope of all appraisal information to the customer and its appraiser.

# Furthermore, we are collecting personal contact information such as phone numbers and emails along with requiring users to specify a username and password. In order to protect our customers and uphold their trust, we must ensure that none of this information is made available to outsiders. The exposure of customer emails or phone numbers could result in an excess of spam or even worse repercussions. And, although it is not recommended, many customers reuse the same username/password combinations. This means that if our database was compromised, the potential impact could grow far past the WebAppraisal site. In order to prevent all of this from happening, it is our job to take all necessary precautions in order to uphold the integrity and security of our site.

# When it comes to privacy concerns, our strategy is to alway err on the side of caution. By digitizing real estate appraisals, we are greatly increasing the availability and convenience of a previously painstaking process. In doing this, we are also introducing a great amount of risk. These risks will not be swept aside, and all preventative measures will be taken to ensure a safe and secure product is delivered.