



## PROGRESSIVE BANK

### Protected by Appgate's Digital Threat Protection since 2015.



#### Background

When Progressive Bank (originally Progressive State Bank) was founded in October 1975 in Winnsboro, Louisiana, the company was primarily dedicated to serving the special banking needs of the agricultural community in the Franklin Parish area. Under the guidance of Mr. George W. Cummings, Jr, Founder and first President, Progressive State Bank had grown to assets of over \$42 million by the end of 1996.

In 1997, Progressive Bank Board of Directors voted to expand. With the expansion also came a name change from Progressive State Bank to Progressive Bank.

As a result of these expansion efforts, Progressive Bank's assets grew from \$46 million in September 1997 to more than \$774 million at the end of 2021. During that same period, deposits increased from \$40 million to \$689 million; and loans increased from \$28 million to nearly \$508 million.

During a year end 2015, the organization realized that it was investing a significant amount of time and resources trying to mitigate phishing and fake websites. Shortly after, and due to a partner compelling recommendation out to Appgate.

Upon contacting Appgate, the CTO explained the challenges, and a plan of action was developed which would require minimal effort to implement from the customer side. The solution was rolled out relatively quickly while being transparent to its members.

#### Challenges and Requirements

The world of cybercrime and cybersecurity continues to rapidly evolve. As soon as a phishing and fake website is taken down, another one pops up. This is a never-ending game of whack-a-mole. Organizations of all sizes with in-house security struggle to keep up with the volume and new trends. This requires a full 24x7x365 commitment and more than ever these organizations are turning to providers that have experience and dedicated security professionals to assist.

**"Appgate makes us feel safe"**  
*– Betsy Jemerson VP Digital Banking Services Progressive Bank.*

#### INDUSTRY

Financial Industry

#### USE CASES

Digital brand asset monitoring

Anti-phishing

Fake website takedown

Detect safe browsing

#### CHALLENGES

Volume of threats

Lack of internal resources

Time spent looking for threats and infringements

Risk to members clicking on a phishing email and accessing a fake website

Potential exposure of member data on the deep & dark web

Brand reputation

#### BENEFITS TO PROGRESSIVE BANK AND THEIR MEMBERS

Simple, cost effective and secure deployment

Simplified system for reporting fake sites and type of actions taken

Assigned Appgate customer success team member

Seamless and consistent user experience

Brand protection confidence

24x7x365 proactive monitoring and support



Progressive Bank needed a simple solution to be able to proactively monitor sophisticated attacks that are increasingly targeting banking customers to steal their personal information. They learned about Appgate's DTP solution from an internal business partner that recommended it. The solution would need to have the following:

- Easy solution to implement & deploy
- Takedown of fake websites
- Proactive monitor and report on findings
- Full hands-off solution backed by a 24x7x365 support center

### Solution

In 2015 Progressive Bank selected and implemented Appgate's Digital Threat Protection (DTP) to proactively monitor and take down fake and phishing websites. The implementation was simple, seamless to deploy and Appgate DTP fully met the expectations and challenges of the customer. In addition, the solution has been transparent to its members and employees. Over the course of the first six months, multiple unauthorized mobile apps were identified, tickets were created, and all the fraudulent activity was quickly removed without any Progressive Bank involvement.

As a result of Progressive Bank's use of the DTP solution, there are several advantages:

- Easy to deploy: Remote implementation of the solution which was rolled-out in a short time
- Proactive reporting: Appgate provides a report that shows how many fake websites and phishing takedowns were executed
- Accountability: Able to show to the Progressive Bank Board proactive actions being taken to mitigate fraud risk
- Increased productivity: Eliminating internal time and resources spent chasing after phishing and fake websites
- Great customer support: Customer satisfaction is a priority and with Appgate's customer success team, it's been a "win-win"

### About Appgate

Appgate is the secure access company. We empower how people work and connect by providing solutions purpose-built on Zero Trust security principles. This people-defined security approach enables fast, simple and secure connections from any device and location to workloads across any IT infrastructure in cloud, on-premises and hybrid environments. Learn more at [appgate.com](https://appgate.com)