

HALL RENDER'S

RANSOMWARE FACT SHEET

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Organizations, including health care providers, are being attacked by cybercriminals who encrypt an organization's data and devices and demand monetary payment to make the data available again or prevent its further disclosure. Ransomware and so-called "double extortion" attacks are on the rise and cost organizations billions of dollars each year. As long as ransomware attacks remain lucrative, the frequency of such attacks are expected to increase.

HOW IT PLAYS OUT

- Threat actors access network through phishing email or other network vulnerability.
- Data is encrypted and instructions for obtaining decryption key(s) are provided.
- Data often is also exfiltrated and backups are infected to prevent recovery.
- Ransom payment is demanded in Bitcoin or other cryptocurrency.
- Ransom usually set at a reasonable and tempting amount, although ransom amounts are increasing.
- Ransom payment must be made via dark web, according to explicit instructions.
- If payment is not made, data is destroyed or released publicly.

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Permanent loss of critical data;
- Loss of data integrity;
- Service interruptions - ransomware can infect and prevent use of devices such as MRI, CT scanners and infusion pumps;
- Payment of ransom may implicate OFAC economic sanctions laws;
- Public release of sensitive data;
- Government investigations and penalties;
- Private litigation, including class actions; and
- Reputational harm.

Ransomware Fact Sheet

HOW CAN HALL RENDER HELP?

Pre-incident (Prevention & Awareness)

Hall Render can help increase awareness and advise on practical preventive efforts, including:

- Periodic risk analysis by experienced IT firm;
- Active Risk Management Plan, including multi-factor authentication, OS/software updates and managing ports and remote access privileges;
- Secure, offline file backups;
- Active network monitoring and mitigation;
- Workforce education and testing on email scams;
- Board and leadership education;
- Disaster Recovery Plan;
- Incident response (tabletop) exercises to test Incident Response Plan and simulate decision-making in a controlled environment;
- Pre-staged contracts with forensics, mailing and PR firms; and
- Cyberliability insurance.

During and Post-incident (Counsel & Advocacy)

Hall Render will counsel and advise throughout the incident and its aftermath, including:

- 24x7x365 availability;
- Provide calm, experienced guidance in midst of chaos;
- Assist in gathering all relevant facts;
- Effectively utilize attorney-client privilege;
- Engage and manage breach response vendors;
- Ensure integrity of investigation (Identify, Contain, Eradicate, Recover);
- Conduct breach notification analysis under various legal requirements;
- Liaison with insurance carrier, government authorities and law enforcement; and
- Coordinate response to regulatory investigations.

OUR EXPERIENCE

Hall Render attorneys regularly assist clients with incident prevention and response activities. We understand that a well-organized and thorough incident response can significantly reduce the potential financial and reputational effects of a security incident. Hall Render has guided numerous clients through the investigation, analysis and notification process on large and small incidents collectively affecting millions of individuals, including ransomware events.

Our experience with these incidents enables us to provide practical, effective advice to our clients and to help them assemble an appropriate team of personnel and professionals to fully resolve the matter. We work in full collaboration with in-house team members as well as outside team members, including insurers, IT consultants, notification vendors, public relation firms and law enforcement.



For more information about our ransomware services, visit hallrender.com or call 317.633.4884.

Hall Render's BREACH RESPONSE HOTLINE Ready to respond 24/7.

Call your Hall Render Breach Response Team for immediate consultation if you suspect a possible breach.

HOTLINE
1-833-BREACH8



Please note that calling the hotline will not create an attorney-client relationship with Hall Render or any of its attorneys until we can confirm we can represent you.