OSB Professional Liability Fund presents

How Law Firms Get Hacked (And What You Can Do About It)

Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

> MCLE ID 108831 1 Practical Skills Credit

Speakers:

Sherri Davidoff Founder and Chief Executive Officer LMG Security

Sean Hoar Partner - Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Chair Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP



CLE Materials

- Speakers' Biographies
- PowerPoint Slides
- Additional Resources

Speaker Biographies

Sherri Davidoff

Sherri Davidoff is the CEO of LMG Security and the author of three books, including "Ransomware and Cyber Extortion" and "Data Breaches: Crisis and Opportunity." As a recognized expert in cybersecurity, she has been called a "security badass" by the New York Times. Sherri has been featured as the protagonist in the book, *Breaking and Entering: The Extraordinary Story of a Hacker Called "Alien."* She is a GIAC-certified forensic examiner (GCFA) and penetration tester (GPEN) and received her degree in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from MIT.

Sean Hoar

Sean Hoar is the Chair of the Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Team at Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP. He is a former cyber attorney for the U.S. Dept. of Justice and received multiple honors for his work with the FBI and Secret Service in prosecuting cybercrime. He now manages a 70-member national team that manage responses to over 2,000 data breeches a year, and has been named by the Cybersecurity Docket as one of the best and brightest data breach response lawyers in the United States. He is a certified Global Information Security Professional (GISP), a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), and a Certified Information Privacy Professional for U.S. law (CIPP/US).



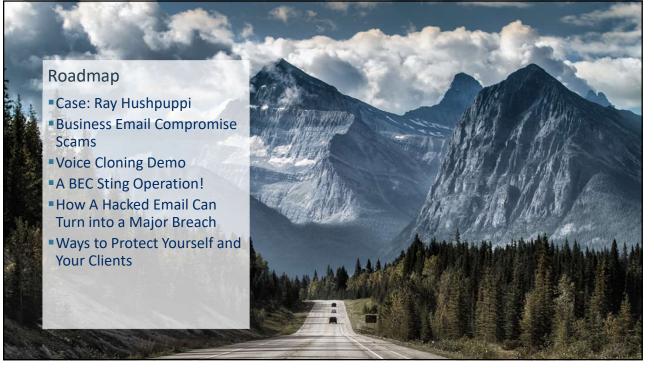
Today's Speakers



Sherri Davidoff Founder & CEO, LMG Security MIT EE/CS, GCFA, GPEN



Sean Hoar Partner & Chair, Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Team Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP



Ray Hushpuppi Sentenced!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, November 7, 2022

Nigerian Man Sentenced to Over 11 Years in Federal Prison for Conspiring to Launder Tens of Millions of Dollars from Online Scams

Criminal Known Online as 'Ray Hushpuppi' Laundered Proceeds of School Financing Scam, Business Email Compromise Fraud and Other Cyber Schemes

LOS ANGELES – A prolific international fraudster who conspired to launder tens of millions of dollars through a series of online scams and flaunted his luxurious, crime-funded lifestyle on social media was sentenced today to 135 months in federal prison.

Ramon Olorunwa Abbas, a 40-year-old Nigerian national, also known by his Instagram handle, "Ray Hushpuppi," was sentenced by United States District Judge Otis D. Wright II, who also ordered Abbas to pay \$1,732,841 in restitution to two fraud victims.

Abbas pleaded guilty in April 2021 to one count of conspiracy to engage in money laundering. He was arrested in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in June 2020 and has remained in federal custody since his expulsion from the UAE.



Case Study: Hushpuppi Scams a NY Law Firm

- Victim 1: NY Law Firm
- Transferred \$922,857 to an account controlled by the criminals
- Represented a client who was refinancing a property w. Citizens Bank
- Paralegal sent verification email to a scam address that looked like Citizens Bank
- Law firm policy must be sent to firm "by fax and followed-up by a phone call"



"Ramon Abbas, a.k.a. 'Hushpuppi,' targeted both American and international victims, becoming one of the most prolific money launderers in the world," said Don Alway, the Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office.

5

Case Study: Hushpuppi Scams a Law Firm

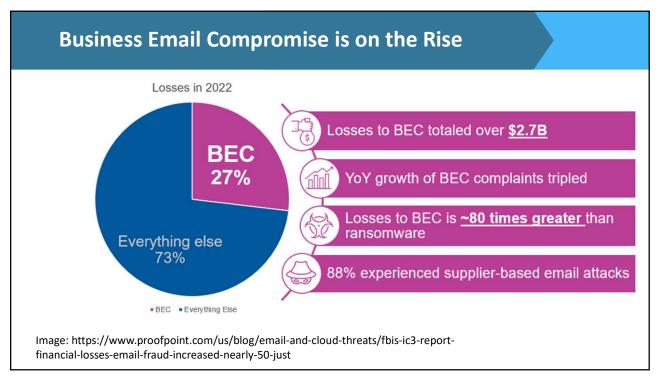
- Paralegal follows the process!
 - Receives a fax in response w/ fraudulent wire instructions
- Calls the number on the fax to verify (oops!)
- Wire transfer \$922,857
- Not discovered until much later
- No funds recovered



Model Rules of Professional Conduct

- ABA Formal Opinion 483
 - Issued October 17, 2018
 - Duty of confidentiality (Oregon RPC 1.6)
 - Duty of competence to develop an understanding of relevant technology (RPC 1.1)
 - Obligation to monitor digital infrastructure on which confidential client information resides
 - Obligation to act reasonably and promptly to contain and mitigate the adverse effects of the breach
 - Obligation to conduct reasonable assessment of what occurred
 - Obligation to provide notice of data breach
 - Current clients
 - Former clients

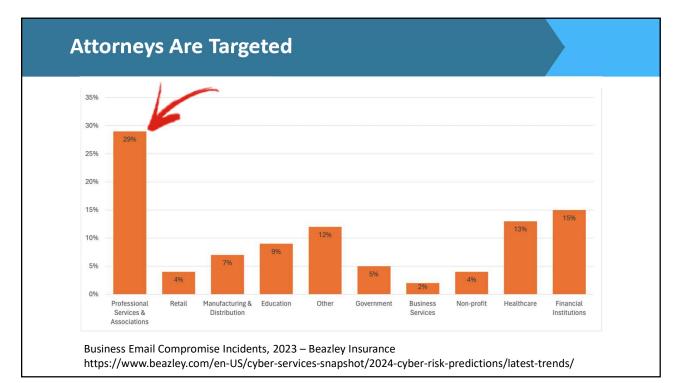




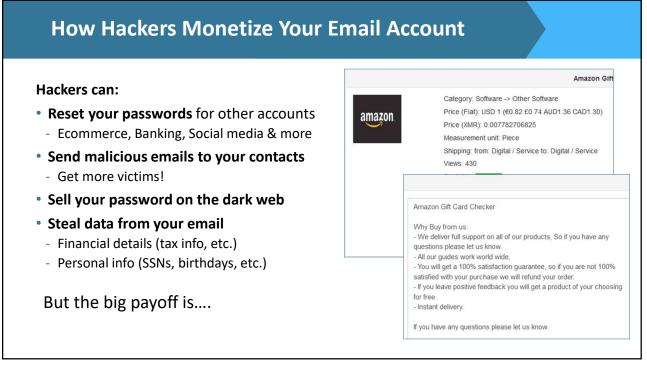
What is Business Email Compromise?

- Criminals steal money
- Typically leverage hacked email accounts
- Monitor communications
- Look for scam opportunities
- Send a carefully crafted spoofed or hacked email to trick recipients into transferring funds









The Big \$\$ Comes from BEC Scams

- 1. Executive fraud
- 2. Upcoming real estate transaction
- 3. Payroll redirect
- 4. Vendor payment (i.e. invoice fraud)
- 5. Billing fraud
- 6. Attorney impersonation



13

Example: BEC Lure

From: Sherri Davidoff <<u>myipadmailcoo.net@gmail.com</u>> Subject: urgent task Date: November 8, 2022 at 12:17:48 PM CST To: XXXXX@Imgsecurity.com

Hi Sam,

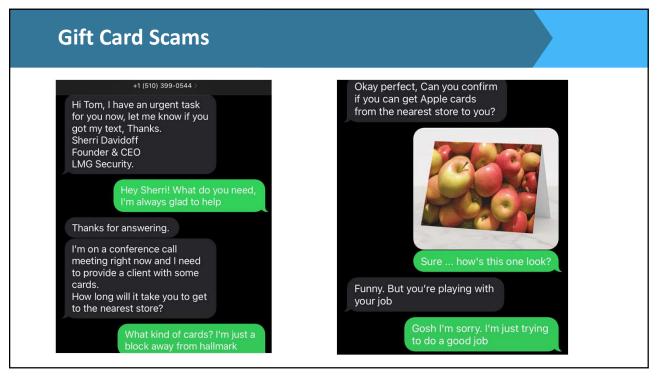
Do you have some free moment? I'll need you to get something done for me real quick.

Sent from my mobile device

Payroll Red	irect	
	it Update yed banks, can you update my payroll direct deposit information? Previous account of a few days before the next pay day. Reply to Carolinebr9080@gmail.com Subject Re: My Direct Deposit Update Hi , Please find the new Banking Information below and kindly let me know when it is updated Bank: Green Dot Bank Account Number: Routing Number: 124 303 120 Thanks,	

New Crimson Ki attacks	ngsnake gang impersonates law firms in BEC
attacks	Bill number 2048190
By Bill Toulas	Account ref 6017600
	RE: Legal/Professional Services Period from January 2021 to May 2021
	SUMMARY OF AMOUNT DUE
	Professional fees
	Governance, Risk and Compliance 19.930,0 Global Mobility Policy and Compliance 16.746,5 Value-building and Succession Planning 8.183,5 VAT @ 0% 0.0 Total 44.860,0
	Total VAT 0.0
	Total amount due 44.860.0

From <app_ipods@lycos.com></app_ipods@lycos.com>	
То	
Subject Re: Aging Report	
Hi	
I need you to email me the aging report from A/R, and also include customer payable contact email on this report.	
Looking forward to your reply.	
Thanks,	
Trager Net	
Δ 0 🝚	







Voice Cloning Attacks are <u>Here</u>

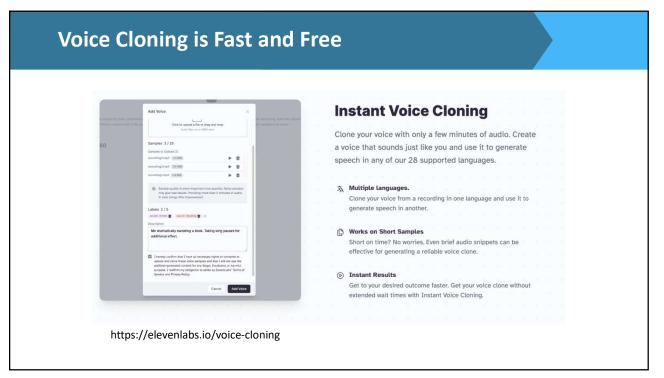
- Scammers call a victim
- Claim to be a known person
 Or that person is in the room
- The person has public audio or video
 It just takes ~1 minute of audio
- Use voice cloning to instruct the victim to move \$\$
- "I heard Michael's voice. I thought I was talking to Michael"

82-year-old thought son-in-law was in trouble before losing \$17K to scammers using AI, family says

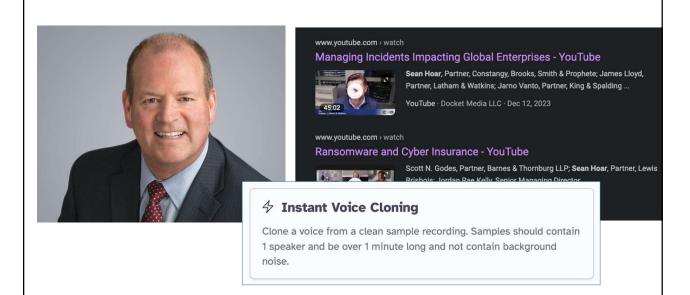


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https://abc13.com/ai-generated-voice-cloning-scamsagainst-elderly-82-year-old-loses-17000/14009790/



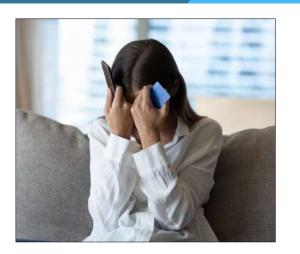
Demo: Cloning Sean's Voice



Speech Synthesis			
Unleash the power of our cutting-edge technolog	y to generate realistic, captivating spe	eech in a wide range	of languages.
Hi, it's Sean. streak time="1s" /> Hey, we have a VIP client and we were supported then bill them. Looks like it slipped through the cracks Can you wire \$2500 to	o the mediator right away		
email you the details. <break time="1s"> Please take care of it right away beca much.</break>	use it's aiready late. That		IC
	Sean Hoar No description prov	ided.	
	♦) Use	🖉 Edit	🛱 Remove

Potential Threats to Attorneys

- Pretend to be you
 - Direct staff to move funds
- Pose as clients
- Direct you to pay \$ and bill them, or move funds held in trust
- Scam your bank
 - Pose as your finance clerk, etc.



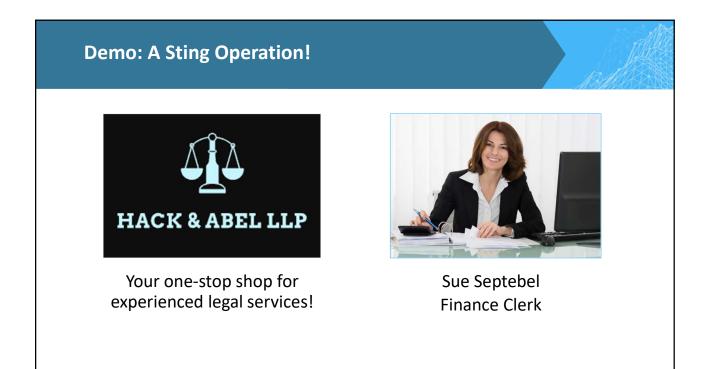


Carefully Verify Callers

- We can't rely on voice any more
- Call back a number or email address that you know is legit
- Consider video verification - (Until the scammers get good at
- faking videos)
 Be cautious using Knowledge Based Authentication (KBA)
 - i.e. security questions
 - Can be stolen, guessed or phished



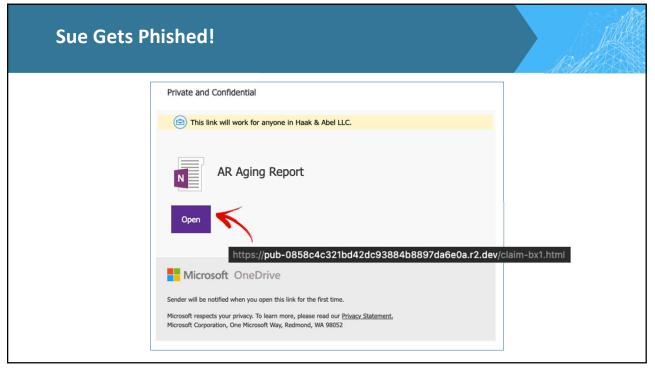
Source: https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/security/mobile-authenticator-app



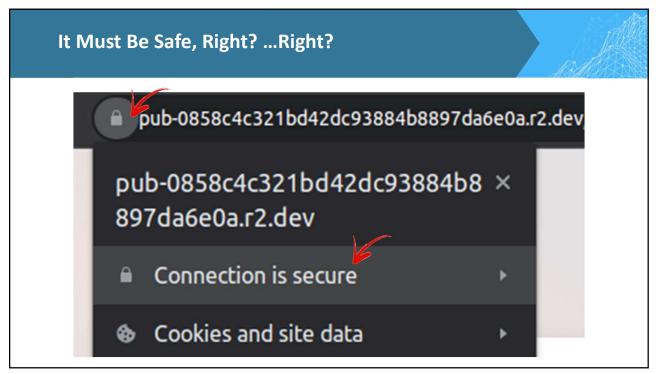
Sue is Helping with A Big Purchase!

- Haak & Abel is buying a new building!
- An ACH payment of \$250k needs to be sent ASAP
- The recipient is Paul Allen, who owns a real estate business
- Sue needs to send Paul a form so he can confirm his bank details





The Phishing Webs	site		
■ pub-0858c4c321bd42dc93884	bb8897da6e0a.r2.dev/claim-bx1.html	☆ 🔲 <table-cell> 😭 Inco</table-cell>	
	😋 Sign-in options		



Hackers Often Want Multiple	PasswordsPhishing sites often try to collect
Microsoft	multiple passwords
← susan@haak-abel.com	 Confirms to the adversary that you entered the correct password
Enter password Your account or password is incorrect. If you can't remember your password, reset it now	 Can also lead to the theft of multiple passwords at the same time
Password	
Forgot my password	
<u>Sign in</u>	



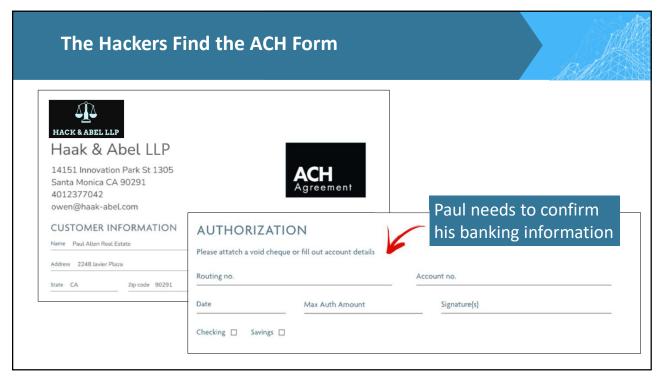


One-Time Passcodes (OTP) are I	Phishing-Prone
 Phishing web sites captures codes and use in real time Attackers text/call and request codes Sometimes for "verification" purposes 	From Google Security: We have detected a roque sign-in to your account credentials. In order to determine the legitimate login we're going to send a verification code to your previously registered phone number from another Google support number. Please re-type the sent
Your Google verification code is <u>954327</u>	verification code in response to this message or your account will be permanently locked. https://blog.knowbe4.com/u.sgovernment-says-to-use- phishing-resistant-mfa

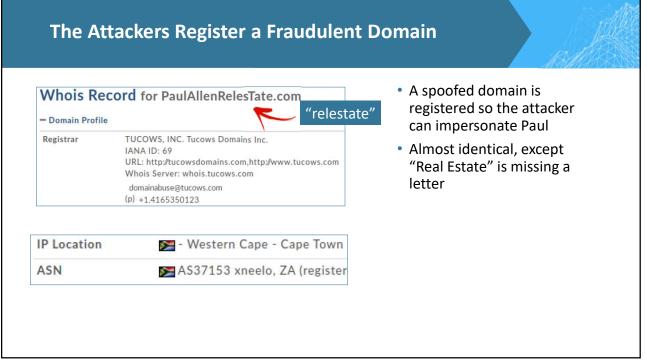
			RAN
Details		kers logged in	
Date (UTC)	LOCATION DATA		
2023-10-02 17:20:24	Katsina, <u>Nigeria</u>		
IP Address	OWNER DETAILS		
105.112.117.45	IP ADDRESS	105.112.117.45	
Users	FWD/REV DNS MATCH	No data	
susan@haak-abel.com	HOSTNAME		
	Ø DOMAIN		
Activity	Ø NETWORK OWNER	airtel networks limited	



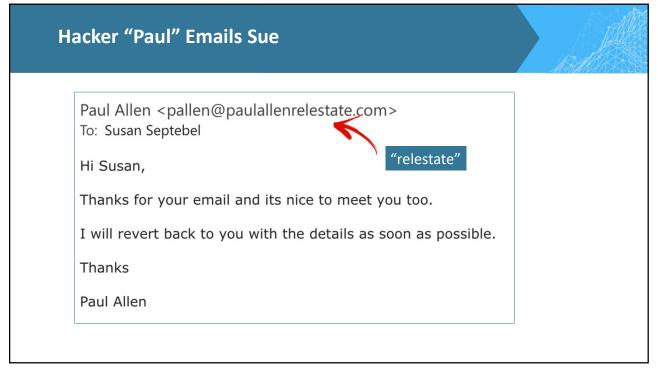
The Hackers Searched Sue's Mailbox • Searched for key terms: $\odot \hspace{0.1cm} \diamond \hspace{0.1cm} \leftarrow \hspace{0.1cm} \leftarrow \hspace{0.1cm} \diamond \hspace{0.1cm} \boxplus \hspace{0.1cm} \cdots$ - Invoice Owen Abel To: Susan Septebel Tue 10/3/2023 10:53 AM - Payment Good morning, Sue. - etc. Just a quire heads up - our new building has passed inspection and we should needy to send the funds for it this week. Be on the lookout for the ACH forms. Once they're in place we'll have Will and myself approve Viewed Mailbox contents for you to send to the real estate agent. So exciting! Owen Abel Partner, CFO Haak & Abel LLC Owen@Haak-Abel.com (401) 237-7042

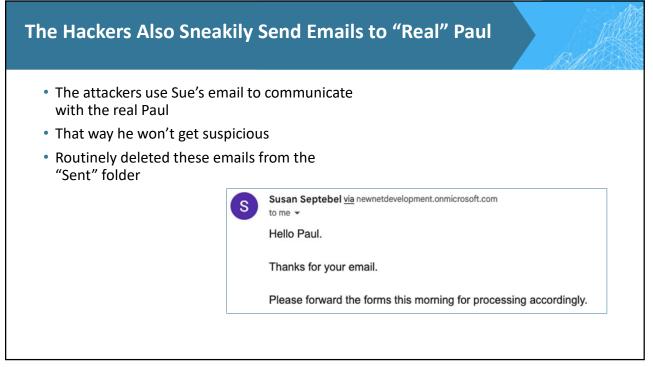


e Attackers S	et Up Mail Forwardi	ng Rules!	ISA
Add a condi	tion	× pallen@paulallenrealestate.com	
Add another	on	6	
Move to Mark as reac		eds ~ X	



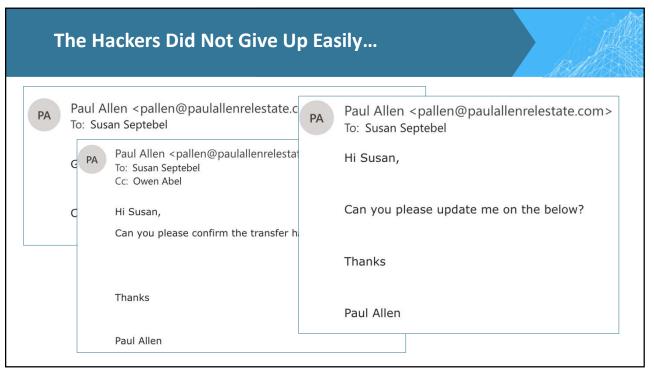
They	y Deleted the "Real" Response from	Paul
PA	Paul Allen <pallen@paulallenrealestate.com> 🙂 … To: Susan Septebel Wed 10/4/2023 4:38 Physics Cc: Owen Abel</pallen@paulallenrealestate.com>	The attackers saw this, deleted it, and then
	Thanks, Susan. It's nice to meet you as well. I'll get the current banking information filled out and get this back	Purged messages from mailbox
	to you as soon as possible.	Purged messages from mailbox
	Sounds great, thank you! Sounds good, thanks! Thank you!	Deleted messages from Deleted Items
		Moved messages to Deleted Items fol





lacker "Paul" Sen	ds the Completed ACH	Paperwork!!!
HACK & ABEL LLP Haak & Abel LLP 14151 Innovation Park St 1305 Santa Monica CA 90291 4012377042	ACH Agreement	
owen@haak-abel.com CUSTOMER INFORMATION Name Paul Allen Real Estate	AUTHORIZATION Please attatch a void cheque or fill out account details	Signed by "Paul Allen"
	Routing no. 053101121 Date 10/05/2023 Checking 🗹 Savings 🗆	Account no. 1340026835738 Signature(s) Paulle M

<section-header>



Recap – Email Hacking for \$\$

- 1. Criminals use stolen passwords to access email
- 2. Search email for invoice/wire transfers etc.
- 3. Steal data, if desired
- 4. Add mail forwarding rules, if desired
- 5. Send fake invoice/wire transfer requests
- 6. Profit

Out-of-Band Verification Can Help!

- Receive an email with:
 - Updated bank account info?
 - Request for wire transfer?
 - Request for financial data?
- Always verify using a second method of communication
- Phone, face-to-face, Zoom, etc.
- Use contact info you already have
 - Not from the email!

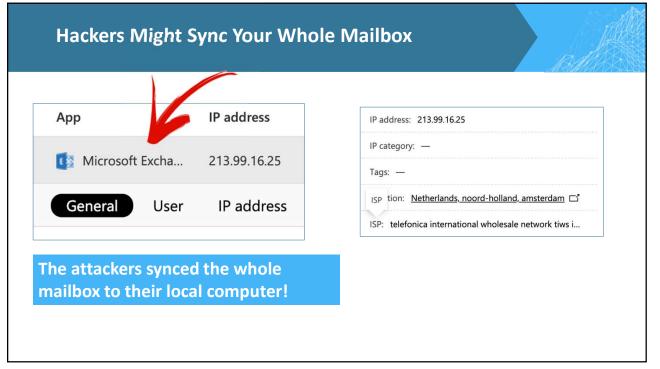


Additional Damage...

- Your data may also have been stolen
- Potential data breach



4/9/2024



Hackers Comb Through			Throug	gh Attachments
	ox attac o checl		nt dumper	from a massive combo list +
	Purchas		•	Shipping/Extra Options: Default - 1 hour(s) - USD + 0.00 / order
hongchon Trust Level	Scroll down for product details, feedback & refund policy.		retund policy,	Purchase Price: 5000.00 USD 2:12495219 XMR Quantity pcs:
	Features		Features	1
Product Type		Origin Country	Worldwide	Proceed to Checkout
Quantity	Unlimited	Ships to	Worldwide	₩ Favourite (Alert when Restocked)



Damage from Cyber Incidents

- Your reputation
- Client trust
- Lawsuits
- Financial damage
- IT outages
- Risk for clients
- Identity theft
- Financial losses
- & more, depending on the data

Jones Day documents, hacked in vendor breach, reveal Chicago drone program details

BY DEBRA CASSENS WEISS

MAY 13, 2021, 9:43 AM CDT

3 Men Made Millions by Hacking Merger Lawyers, U.S. Says







Cyber Insurance is More Important than Ever

- Information security & privacy liability
 - Legal defense
 - Investigative expense
 - Claims & damages due to privacy violations
- Regulatory fines (state/federal laws, etc.)
- Business interruption
 - Lost revenue (after a waiting period)
 - Recovery/remediation costs
 - May not provide coverage due to 3rd party provider outages
 - Contingent/dependent business interruption



59

Cyber Insurance Can Help if You're Hacked!

- Call your insurer's hotline
 - Typically staffed by attorneys
 - May also be staffed by insurer's team
- Hotline staff identify parties to bring in
- IR partner
- Ransomware negotiator
- etc.
- Get on a call with attorneys and IR partner
- Triage & develop initial response strategy

Call the:

24/7/365 Incident Response Hotline

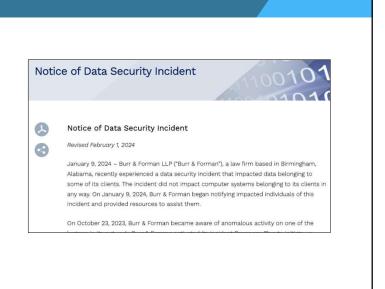
number contained within your policy documentation.

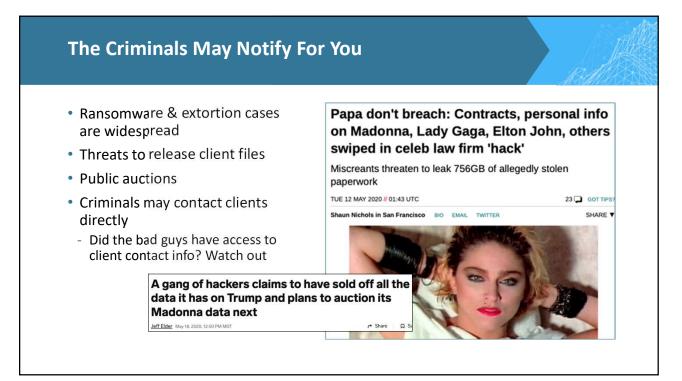
You will need to provide the following details:

- Your name
- Your contact details
- Your business name
- Your policy number
- A brief description of the incident and when it occurred

Proper Notification is Critical

- Ethics
- Current vs. former clients
- 3rd party liability





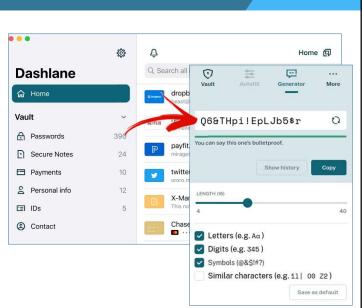
Password Re-Use is a Top Cause of Breaches intuit • Criminals steal your passwords quickbooks • Or buy them on the dark web Sign In to Online Banking Sign In Try them everyplace they can! Sign in to your Intuit account to a Online ID products including QuickBooks. • Personal sites, work sites amazon his Online ID 👩 "Credential stuffing" Sign-In ode Email or mobile phone number Automated tools Continu • All your cloud apps are at risk r Passcode? ı in Need help? "Hackers don't break in, they log in" - Bret Arsenault, Microsoft 63

Choose a Strong Password Unique 24+ Billion Credentials Circulating on the Dark Web in 2022 – So Far Long Complex Username and password combinations offered for sale on the Dark Web by criminals has increased 65% since 2020. Changed routinely Obitcoin @MONERO Info Linked in Vendor: PinkQueen (466) (4.29) https://pages.nist.gov/800-63-FAQ/ Digital goods SEARC Combo List 593 Million Email Addresses And Passwords. 8.30 EUR per File B

Password Managers Can Help!

- Unique passwords can't be reused if stolen
- Make sure they are difficult to guess
- Use a password manager!
- Team sharing
- Password escrow
- Popular:
 - Dashlane, 1Password, BitWardenLow cost or even free
- Elever cost of even free

(Remember to use MFA for the login!)





7 Key Takeaways

- 1. Use Multi-Factor Authentication
- Ideally using strong authentication
- Any MFA is better than no MFA
- 2. Conduct Cybersecurity Awareness Training
- 3. Reduce Your Data
- 4. Get (Good) Cyber Insurance
- 5. Pick Unique, Strong Passwords
- 6. Use a Password Manager Program
- 7. Embrace Passwordless Authentication





HOW TO:

PREVENT & RESPOND TO BUSINESS EMAIL COMPROMISE



Email account break-ins seem to happen as often as the common cold— and yet they can lead to large financial losses, reputational damage, and more. In this handout, we'll discuss how criminals break into email accounts, and what you can do to protect yourself and your organization.

WHY DO CRIMINALS HACK YOUR Email account?

YOUR DATA IS WORTH \$\$

Business email accounts are potential gold mines. Your emails contain valuable data, such as Social Security Numbers, passwords, credit-card numbers, and other details that can be sold for money on the dark web. In some cases, criminals copy entire accounts of correspondence, which can later be used for ransom or political gain.

CRIMINALS USE EMAIL FOR FINANCIAL FRAUD

Often, criminals hack into a business email account in order to commit financial fraud. For example, a criminal might break into an email account and then immediately search for data that could easily be monetized (such as invoices or wire transfer instructions). Next, the criminal creates a fake invoice or wire transfer notification to redirect the funds, and then waits for the money to arrive. Sophisticated criminals add mail filtering rules that lengthen the time to discovery.

YOUR CONTACTS BECOME THE NEXT VICTIMS

Once criminals break into an email account, they often made a point of targeting related accounts, such as co-workers, clients, or anyone listed as a contact.

EMAIL HACKS CAN BE DATA BREACHES

In addition to financial fraud, extortion, reputational damage and more, an email account break-in may "count" as a data breach. If an attacker had access to confidential information, you may be required to notify the data subjects and report a breach under state or federal law, depending on the contents of your email.

HOW DO CRIMINALS GET ACCESS?

In recent years, email has moved to the cloud, enabling users (and criminals) to access email from anywhere in the world. Here are three ways that criminals get access to your email:

INFECT YOUR COMPUTER

Criminals infect your computer by enticing you to click on a link or open a malicious attachment. When you do, your computer may be infected with malware that monitors your keystrokes or steals your login information when you submit a web form.

2 FAKE A WEB SITE

Criminals may set up fake web sites that look just like your email provider, bank or other common web service. Then, they trick you into visiting the web site, using phishing emails or other methods. When you type your password into the fake web site, they capture it and use it to login to your accounts.

BUY YOUR PASSWORD ON THE DARK WEB

There have been so many data breaches that billions of passwords are available for sale on the dark web. If your password was stolen in the past, it may be sold on the dark web to others who will use it to login to your accounts.



PROTECT YOUR ACCOUNTS

You can protect your email (and other data online) using strong passwords and login security. First, here are a few important terms to know:

AUTHENTICATION - A method for verifying a person's identity. For example, I might tell my computer that I am "jsmith," and I prove my identity by typing in a *password*.

VERIFICATION - There are three different ways that you can verify that you are who you say you are:

- Something you know (for example, a password).
- Something you have (for example, a key).
- Something you are (for example, a fingerprint).

TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION - Verifying a person's identity using two methods combined.

PASSWORD MANAGERS - A smart way to remember strong passwords is to not remember them at all! A password manager is secure software that stores your passwords in an encrypted vault on your computer, or in the cloud.

Here are some video tutorials for setting up and using password managers and two-factor authentication: www.LMGsecurity.com/passwords

TIPS FOR STRONG PASSWORDS AND LOGIN SECURITY

DON'T -

Use Two-Factor Authentication! It's easy to set up with many providers, such as Office365 and Google.

NN **_____**

- Pick Strong Passwords Choose a password that is long- at least 14 characters or more. Use a passphrase (a sentence fragment, song lyrics, etc.) to help you remember it.
 - **Use a Password Manager Program** to store your passwords securely, so you don't have to remember them all. Popular options include LastPass and KeePass.

- **DON'T Share Your Password** with anyone—not friends, co-workers, vendors, or even IT staff.
- **DON'T Re-use Important Passwords**. Avoid using the same password for multiple different websites or services. Never re-use personal passwords for work, or vice versa.
- **DON'T Write Your Password Down on Paper**, unless it's secured in a locked location.
- **DON'T Store Passwords in Files on Your Computer**, such as Word documents or spreadsheets. Instead, use a secure password manager.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOUR EMAIL GETS HACKED?

- Reset your password.
- If possible, activate two-factor authentication.
- Place a legal hold on any mailboxes that you suspect may have been compromised, to preserve all emails. That way you can conduct an inventory and evaluate any data that may have been exposed.

Preserve logs immediately. Export and make copies of any logs that might show who logged into your email account, where they logged in from, or what they did. This can potentially help you narrow down the scope of the incident.

Call for professional help. Business email compromise can trigger breach notification laws, and lead to fraud and other crimes. Act quickly and get experienced guidance when you need it.



145 W FRONT STREET MISSOULA, MONTANA 59802 www.LMGsecurity.com

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Please contact us any time you have a question or need additional support. Phone: 406-830-3165 | Toll-Free: 1-855-LMG-8855 | E-mail: info@LMGsecurity.com

REFERRING A CLIENT

To refer a client to LMG Security, please email info@LMGsecurity.com

TIP SHEET:

MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Overview & Best Practices

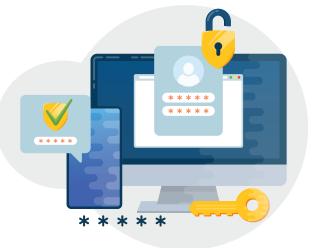
WHAT IS MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION?

Authentication is the process of verifying a user's identity. Typically, this is done using any of the following factors:

SOMETHING YOU KNOW such as a username or password

SOMETHING YOU HAVE a physical token or authenticator app for example

SOMETHING YOU ARE such as a fingerprint or retinal scan



Multi-factor authentication, or MFA, combines two or more factors to add extra layers of protection to your account. That way, if an attacker steals your password or your phone, you still have another layer of protection. LMG recommends that organizations enable MFA on any compatible internal and internet-facing applications, services, and accounts.

WHY DO YOU NEED MFA?

The <u>2022 Verizon Data Breach Investigation Report</u> found that 82% of breaches involved a human element – e.g. social engineering – and over 60% of those attacks were a result of phishing. As organizations continue to grow their cloud portfolios, share credentials, and build trust relationships between platforms, criminals will increase their focus on compromising emails to gain access to your organization, on-premises systems, cloud environments, and even partner ecosystems.

Let's look at one recent example.

A finance clerk fell victim to a phishing attack and typed her email password into a criminal's website by mistake. Since the organization did not require <u>multi-factor authentication</u>, the criminal easily accessed and searched the clerk's emails and identified the organization's payroll vendor. The criminal then entered the clerk's email password into the payroll login screen (unfortunately, the clerk used the same password for multiple accounts) and successfully accessed the company's payroll cloud platform. The lucky criminal used the access to divert the paychecks of multiple employees into the criminal's own bank account—which the criminal then emptied and closed after the next pay period—walking away with a hefty payday.

Implementing MFA is one of the most inexpensive ways to reduce your risk of fraud and data breaches.

BEST PRACTICES FOR IMPLEMENTING MFA

Enable MFA on every compatible application, service, and account. Prioritize high-risk services such as Internet-facing accounts and cloud platforms.

Whenever possible, used strong MFA such as a smartphone application or a hardware token. Simple SMS messages are more easily intercepted and misused by criminals. Consider implementing one of the following as your primary MFA solution:

Authenticator apps. Authenticator apps are designed to encrypt sensitive authentication tokens, authenticate endpoints, and resist attacks.

Hardware fobs. These small devices, such as Yubikey and Titan Security Key, are small enough to attach to your keychain. These options are either directly connected to your computer or are scanned using a protocol like Near Field Communication (NFC). This eliminates the risk from lost cell phones or SIM swapping attacks.

Biometric authentication. Go passwordless! You can use fingerprints, palm scans, facial recognition, or other options.

If you must use SMS authentication (which is less secure and subject to SIM jacking / SIM swapping):

Contact your telecommunications provider and add a PIN or passphrase to your cellular accounts. This makes it much harder for a criminal to take over your phone number and have your texts sent to their phone. All major U.S. carriers support this option.

Check the fallback options! Often, victims get hacked because a criminal forces the MFA system to use a backup method such as SMS. Make sure you understand what fallback options are enabled in your MFA system and disable any that don't fit your security model.

Check that your cloud providers support strong authentication (not just SMS) before you sign up. If you're already using a platform that does not support strong authentication, urge your vendor to roll out support, and carefully evaluate whether the risk is worth the benefit of that service.

HOW TO CHOOSE AN MFA SOLUTION

You have multiple options for MFA solutions. But our first caveat is that no matter which solution you choose, HOW you configure and implement any of these solutions impacts their performance.

Three of the most common and most supported options are Duo, Microsoft Authenticator, and Google Authenticator. Here's a quick overview of what sets them apart:

Microsoft Authenticator. It's free with your Office 365 or Azure AD subscription! It supports all Microsoft services and can be used manually to sign into any traditional TOTP MFA integration. As an added bonus: the Microsoft Authenticator can also act as a password manager with direct mobile integration and available apps for both Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge.

Google Authenticator: It's free! The authenticator is a code generator and is supported by a large number of vendors and services right out of the box. While it shares many features in common with Microsoft and Duo, it lacks many of the management, response, and more sophisticated options. Google Authenticator is especially appropriate for individual and small business usage.

Duo. Requires a fee (although it is relatively inexpensive) for more than 10 seats, but it's a full-featured and robust solution with the following benefits:

- · Supports a variety of authentication methods
- Facilitates push notifications
- Works natively with a large variety of services (out of the box support for Slack, Akamai, Atlassian, etc.)
- Includes strong logging and monitoring features
- Enables self-enrollment for a user's personal or work devices
- Integrates directly with Identity Providers like Azure AD to facilitate Single Sign-on (SSO) services

Any MFA is better than no MFA, but some solutions provide more features and are easier to manage. Implementing the right solution for your needs can quickly and easily provide your organization with a much stronger security posture.



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Want LMG to implement or manage MFA for you? <u>Contact us</u>. We offer MFA as a managed service or handle the implementation for you to take the burden off your team.

HOW TO:

PROTECT YOUR PASSWORD – A CHEAT SHEET



Do you hate passwords? Have trouble remembering them? You're not alone! Passwords are both incredibly important and challenging to manage. Strong passwords are the foundation of cybersecurity and may be the difference between a data breach and just another day at the office. Here are simple steps you can take to make your passwords strong and stress-free.

TIPS FOR STRONG PASSWORDS AND LOGIN SECURITY

DO

- **Use Two-Factor Authentication!** It's easy to set up with many providers, such as Office365 and Google.
- Pick Strong Passwords. Choose a password that is long - at least 14 characters or more.
 Use a passphrase (a sentence fragment, song lyrics, etc.) to help you remember it. Passphrase Example: Jan 1st is NewYears!\$ or
 Won'tyoubemyNeighbor?

Use a Password Manager Program. Store your passwords securely, so you don't have to remember them all. Popular options include LastPass and KeePass.

DON'T

- **DON'T Share Your Password** with anyone—not friends, co-workers, vendors, or even IT staff.
- **DON'T Re-use Important Passwords**. Avoid using the same password for multiple different websites or services. Never re-use personal passwords for work, or vice versa.
 - **DON'T Write Your Password Down on Paper,** unless it's secured in a locked location.
- **DON'T Store Passwords in Files on Your Computer**, such as Word documents or spreadsheets. Instead, use a secure password manager.

IMPORTANT TERMS

AUTHENTICATION

A method for verifying a person's identity. For example, I might tell my computer that I am "sdavidoff," and I prove my identity by typing in a *password*.

VERIFICATION

There are three different ways that you can verify that you are who you say you are:

- Something you know (for example, a password).
- Something you have (for example, a key).
- Something you are (for example, a fingerprint).

TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

Verifying a person's identity using two methods combined.

PASSWORD MANAGERS

A smart way to remember strong passwords is to not remember them at all! A password manager is secure software that stores your passwords in an encrypted vault on your computer, or in the cloud.

Here are some video tutorials for setting up and using password managers and two-factor authentication: www.LMGsecurity.com/passwords



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WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Please contact us any time you have a question or need additional support. Phone: 406-830-3165 | Toll-Free: 1-855-LMG-8855 E-mail: info@LMGsecurity.com

REFERRING A CLIENT

To refer a client to LMG Security, please email info@LMGsecurity.com