



security in 2021

Puget Sound Finance Officers Association

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Office of the
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CPE Check #1: Poll the room



- Experience a cyber incident of some type in last year?
- Had a close call in the last year?
- Know someone who experienced an incident?
- Worried about having an incident?



Agenda

- ACH Scams Update
- Ransomware
- Vendor Management
- #BeCyberSmart
- Fraud Reporting



Anatomy of the ACH fraud



Trusted Employee Name
(scammer@gmail.com)

Subject: My Pay Information

Hi,

I would like to change my Direct Deposit information with my next pay. Kindly send me the form I need to submit. What date is the deadline for submission?

The High-Tech Solution



Another Way the ACH Fraud Is Initiated



System compromise

- Email or network
- Risk extends beyond ACH loss
- Difficult investigation
- Fraud is still easily prevented but...

CPE Check #2



Your Worst Nightmare



Anatomy of a Ransomware Attack



Trusted Person's Name
(scammer@gmail.com)

Subject: Invoice

Hi,

..... click here.....

The Unwanted Houseguest



Gain entrance

- Email (most often)
- Unannounced guest

We're in!

Dropper (small)

Look around

- Admin access
- Passwords
- Unpatched systems

Call home

The Difficult Goodbye



Stay awhile

Additional unwanted houseguests (malware)

Extract information

- Confidential data
- Passwords

Lock

- Encrypt

Threaten

Operational Standstill



One government's experience:

- Every server encrypted
- Backup partially encrypted
- Additional malware
- Data extracted?



Actions for a Finance Officer



- Read IC3 Ransomware Fact Sheet
- Ask your IT if they limit RDP access from the internet
- Ask your IT if software updates are occurring for ALL software

Actions for a Finance Officer



- Ask about backup and recovery
- Consider how you protect confidential and critical operations and processes.
 - Password?
 - Multi-factor authentication?
- Develop an incident response plan

CPE Check #3



We all need a little help



What can go wrong?

- Extension of risk
- Unmonitored access
- Software / system design
- Age
- Default passwords



What can we do?

- Ask questions
- Show interest
- What are the challenges?



CPE Check #4



#BeCyberSmart Campaign



- Curated suite of cybersecurity resources for local government
- Customized by role in government
- Designed as a place for governments to start

#BeCyberSmart Initiative



Leadership and Planning

1. Include cyber-risks when performing entity-wide risk assessments
2. Develop and maintain policies and standards for your organization related to cybersecurity
3. Adequately fund cybersecurity



Facilities and Operations

1. Identify cyber-risks to infrastructure
2. Ensure facilities have appropriate security controls
3. Improve security of infrastructure using cybersecurity best practices



Finance and Administration

1. Fund cybersecurity to enable its success
2. Work with other departments to ensure third party contracts include appropriate cybersecurity accountability clauses
3. Protect sensitive financial, legal and other confidential information



Legal and Compliance

1. Educate yourself on the legal implications of cybersecurity
2. Implement an effective compliance program
3. Actively work across teams to create a holistic risk mitigation plan



Information Technology

1. Create a robust cybersecurity program
2. Integrate security into design, architecture, deployment, and routine operations
3. Maintain excellent technical competence in cybersecurity



Human Resources

1. Train employees on cybersecurity
2. Evaluate and support staffing needs to address cyber-risks
3. Protect access to sensitive employee information through cybersecurity best practices

Cybersecurity for Finance and Administration



1

Fund cybersecurity to enable its success

2

Work with other departments to ensure third-party contracts include appropriate cybersecurity accountability clauses

3

Protect sensitive financial, legal and other confidential information

Additional Resources

- Center for Internet Security – CIS Controls
www.cisecurity.org/controls/
- NIST 800-53 Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations
csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-53/rev-4/final
- NIST 800-161 Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organization
<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.800-161>
- Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center (MS-ISAC)
www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/



Additional Resources

- SAO's #BeCyberSmart Page

www.sao.wa.gov/becybersmart/

- SAO's Guidance on ACH Fraud

www.sao.wa.gov/where-are-your-payments-going-this-month/

- SAO Guidance on when to report a cybersecurity issue

[Has your government experienced a cybersecurity issue? Here is when and how to report - Office of the Washington State Auditor](#)



Fraud Reporting



- Fraudulent ACH payment
- Ransom payment
- System compromise



CPE Check #5



Questions



Information

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