CONNECTICUT INTELLIGENCE CENTER

1111 Country Club Road Middletown, CT 06457 Phone: (860) 706-5500 Email: ctic@ct.gov

Informational Message

Increase in Cyber Attacks in Connecticut—Request for Reporting

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(U//FOUO) SUMMARY: There has been a recent increase in cyber-attacks targeting schools across the State of Connecticut. Reporting these and similar incidents to the Connecticut Intelligence Center (CTIC) will provide the affected entities/communities with access to state resources and aid. The following information was obtained from open sources in the past two weeks:

- The New Haven Register detailed a recent ransomware attack that targeted a city school district.¹
 - In that article, the security vendor contracted by the city stated that four or five other school districts in the state were hit with something similar in the same time period.
- The New Haven Register also reported that another school system was targeted with Denial-of-Service attacks daily for a six week period.2
- Cyware reported a school system recently suffered a data breach that potentially compromised students' personal information.3
- NBC Connecticut reported another school district that suffered from a similar incident and also mentioned that three schools in the State had recently been targeted by ransomware attacks.4

(U//FOUO) CTIC learned of these incidents through open source information rather than by direct reporting which directly effects the state's ability to provide potential assistance. When incidents are reported directly to CTIC, the fusion center is able to coordinate with all of their partners, including the CT State Police Cyber Crimes Investigation Unit (CCIU). CTIC also uses this information to tracks trends and provide timely alerts to potential targets when necessary. Attached is the states Cyber Incident Reporting sheet which includes contact information and a threat matrix that helps agencies determine when they should be reporting cyber incidents to the State. There is also a document produced by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Multi-State ISAC, National Governors Association, and the National Association of State Chief Information Officers on steps that agencies can take to protect themselves from ransomware attacks.

(U) CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING SHEET

Source: State of Connecticut

(U) IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SAFEGUARD AGAINST RANSOMWARE ATTACKS

Source: CISA, MS-ISAC, NGA, and NASCIO

(U//FOUO) CTIC and the CT State Police Cyber Crime Investigation Unit continues to monitor this reporting and will provide further information on the impact/significance to the State of Connecticut. Incident Reporting, Information and inquiries should be directed to CTIC at (860) 706-5500 or ctic@ct.gov. The Connecticut State Police Cyber Crime Investigation Unit can be reached at cybercrime@ct.gov or (860) 685-8450.

(U) Sources

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Bridgeport Police Department - Hartford Police Department - Norwich Police Department - Southern Connecticut State University Police Department - Waterbury Police Department US Department of Homeland Security - Connecticut State Police - Connecticut National Guard - United States Coast Guard - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Transportation Security Administration - Connecticut Department of Correction - Connecticut Judicial Branch - New England HIDTA

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¹ https://www.nhregister.com/news/article/New-Haven-Public-Schools-hit-by-ransomware-attack-14119810.php

https://www.nhregister.com/business/technology/article/Cyberattacks-inflict-deep-harm-at-technology-rich-14098461.php

³ https://medium.com/cyber-journal/wallingford-school-suffers-data-breach-compromising-students-personal-information-444e240a6d38

⁴ https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/Schools-Targeted-by-Hackers-513210741.html