



CYBERSECURITY

[Veterinary Network Hit with Ransomware](#)

National Veterinary Associates (NVA), a large network of veterinary hospitals and clinics, has reportedly been the victim of a ransomware attack. According to the reports, NVA employs more than 2,600 veterinarians, with over 700 veterinary hospitals and clinics in the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand. [Read more](#)

[Medicare Beneficiary Cards of 220,000 Individuals Compromised](#)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) has announced that approximately 220,000 Medicare beneficiaries' card numbers have been compromised "by an unknown person or organization." That means CMS doesn't know who or how the cards were compromised. [Read more](#)

VIRTUAL CURRENCY

[The Future of Stablecoins—Anything But Stable?](#)

Stablecoin currencies such as Facebook's Libra may pose systemic risks to the global financial system, according to a [recently released](#) Federal Reserve Report (the Fed). In its Financial Stability Report released on November 19th, the Fed states that a global stablecoin network, if poorly designed and unregulated, could pose risks to financial stability and the failure of a stablecoin currency to operate as expected could disrupt other parts of the financial system. [Read more](#)

DATA BREACH

[On the Border Restaurant Suffers Data Breach](#)

Last week, the Tex-Mex restaurant chain On the Border suffered a data breach that impacted its payment acceptance systems in 27 states. The restaurant says that some credit card information of customers who visited the chain between April and August 2019 may have been compromised. In a press release, On the Border representatives said, "Our company has retained a leading forensics firm and is currently investigating the extent to which information in On the Border's systems has been impacted. We are cooperating with law enforcement and have also notified payment card networks of the investigation." [Read more](#)

HIPAA

[Misdirected Hospital Bills Lead to \\$2.175 Million HIPAA Settlement](#)

On November 27, 2019, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR) [announced](#) a \$2.175 million dollar settlement with a hospital system to resolve alleged violations of

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HIPAA's Breach Notification Rule and Privacy Rule. The settlement is noteworthy as it represents OCR's fourth HIPAA settlement in excess of \$1 million dollars in just over a month [See our coverage of recent enforcement actions [here](#) and [here](#)]. [Read more](#)

NEW + NOW

[Biometric Information Litigation Update](#)

Despite repeated warnings, companies continue to be hammered with class action lawsuits for violation of the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA) [view related [posts](#)].

BIPA requires that any company that is collecting, using and disclosing biometric information (such as facial recognition, iris scans, fingerprints, DNA testing, to name a few) must basically obtain consent before collecting the information; tell the individual why they are collecting it and what they are doing with it; protect the information while it is in the company's possession; and destroy it when it no longer has a business purpose to keep it. That is the crib version of the statute. [Read more](#)

DRONES

[Aviation Groups Urge House and Senate Committees to Reject Drone Legislation](#)

In a letter submitted last month to the chairmen and ranking members of the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and its aviation subcommittee, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and other aviation industry groups urged the panels to oppose the Drone Integration and Zoning Act, S.2607. This Act "proposes enabling thousands of local governments in the United States to impose their own restrictions on commercial [unmanned aerial systems (UAS or drones)] air carrier operations." [Read more](#)

PRIVACY TIP #218

[FBI Considers FaceApp a Counterintelligence Threat](#)

For those of you who have downloaded the face editing app FaceApp, please note that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has classified FaceApp as a counterintelligence threat because of its Russian origins. This week's privacy tip covers the details. [Read more](#)

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