



CYBERSECURITY

[McAfee® Report Outlines Recent Threats from Q3 2018](#)

For data security buffs like me, the recent [McAfee® Labs Threats Report, December 2018](#) is, or should be, a top pick on the list. Well, maybe not for the holiday reading list. We need to be careful not to bring up the results during holiday parties.

I warn you that it is not an uplifting read, but a dark one that is necessary to stay on top of the most recent threats to businesses and individuals. [Read more](#)

[Experian® Predicts Cyber Threats in 2019](#)

Experian's Data Breach Resolution group has released its [Data Breach Industry Forecast 2019 Report](#), which provides predictions for data breaches in 2019, and outlines staggering statistics of data breaches that occurred in 2018.

One statistic is that the "number of records compromised in the first half of the year had already surpassed the total number of breached records for all of 2017, according to the Identity theft Resource Center's 2017 Data Breach Industry Summary report." And this statistic does not include the most recent Starwood/Marriott breach. [Read more](#)

INTERNET OF THINGS

[The Latest Hack into a Smart Home Camera - Another Reason to Use Two-Factor Authentication](#)

Sometimes I feel like I'm the Grinch at a party when I talk shop about the latest massive data breach or horrible hacker story that is in the news. We say things like, "It's not if, but when" there will be another data breach. Well, this week was no different, as we saw news reports of a family with a Nest wireless smart home camera that was hacked. The hacker threatened to kidnap their baby and terrified the

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family. So what happened, and should you return that smart home device you just bought for a holiday gift? [Read more](#)

ENFORCEMENT + LITIGATION

[No Breach, No Standing](#)

A federal judge recently held that mere allegations that a healthcare provider's patient information portal failed to utilize sufficient security measures, without allegations of an actual breach, were insufficient to confer standing on the plaintiff. The case, *Williams-Diggins v. Mercy Health*—which was pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio—centered around the plaintiff's 2016 allegations that the defendant's "use of software known as the Horizon Patient Folder WebStation portal caused private and protected patient information to be exposed to unauthorized third parties." [Read more](#)

HIPAA

[OCR Issues Request for Information Regarding Modification of HIPAA to Promote Care Coordination and Transition to Value-Based Care](#)

On December 14, 2018, the Department of Health & Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR) published a Request for Information (RFI) soliciting public input on updates to regulations promulgated under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), with the goals of removing "regulatory obstacles" and decreasing "regulatory burdens" in furtherance of the healthcare industry's transition to value-based care models. [Read more](#)

NEW + NOW

[Patch, Patch, Patch Those Vulnerabilities](#)

The bane of data security is the patch. The patch is what your IT guys are doing in the background to fix vulnerabilities in software that are known to the manufacturers, and to attempt to fix any vulnerability before hackers can exploit it. Patching is a very important part of a security plan, but the number of patches that must be implemented by your security team has increased dramatically, and sometimes the patching schedule can be challenging. [Read more](#)

DRONES

[Vaccines Delivered by Drone in South Pacific](#)

On the remote island of Erromango, in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu, a one-month old child was given vaccines for hepatitis and tuberculosis via drone delivery. Not only is this unique because of the delivery method, but more than 20 percent of children under age five miss their vaccinations in Vanuatu because of the difficulty in reaching its remote villages, many of which are accessible only by banana boats. This is of course not the first vaccine to be delivered by drone, but it was the first in Vanuatu, which will be the only country in the world to make its childhood vaccine program officially drone-dependent. This program is supported by UNICEF, the Australian government, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The program will initially serve three islands (of the 83 volcanic islands that make up Vanuatu), with hopes of expanding to many more. [Read more](#)

AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

[Las Vegas Granted DOT Grant for Autonomous Vehicle Project](#)

The City of Las Vegas and the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada in the Las Vegas Medical District were awarded \$5.3 million by the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Grants program for an autonomous vehicle project.

The project, GoMed, is set to begin late next year, and will provide autonomous and connected vehicle service around a four-mile route between the Las Vegas Medical District and the Bonneville Transit Center in the downtown area. GoMed will consist of four self-driving shuttles, pedestrian safety devices, and 23 smart transit shelters equipped with Wi-Fi to convey information on arrival times, occupancy and wayfinding kiosks. [Read more](#)

PRIVACY TIP #170

[Patch: Business + Personal](#)

The bane of data security is the patch. This week's privacy tip discusses tasks IT staff perform in the background in attempt to fix software vulnerabilities before hackers can exploit them. [Read more](#)



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