

Data Privacy + Cybersecurity Insider

Leveraging Knowledge to Manage Your Data Risks

CYBERSECURITY

[Health Care Organizations Warned of Venus Ransomware](#)

The Health Care Sector Cybersecurity Coordination Center (IC3) recently [released](#) an Analyst's Note to health care organizations providing information on a new variant of ransomware called Venus (also known as GOODGAME). [Read more](#)

DATA PRIVACY

[Popular Tax e-Filing Sites Reportedly Sent Tax Info to Meta](#)

According to [reporting](#) from the Verge and the Markup, several popular e-filing providers have been transmitting sensitive financial information to Meta through Meta Pixel. Meta Pixel is a free advertising analytics service offered by Meta that, similar to cookie files and other persistent user identifiers, collects personalized data about how the users interact with content across the Internet. The Meta Pixel service allows Meta to tailor advertising profiles for users regardless of whether they have a Facebook account. [Read more](#)

[Facebook Is Removing Some Sensitive Information from Public Profiles](#)

Starting December 1, Facebook reportedly will remove several biographic details from user profiles, including "Religious views," "Political views," "Interested in" (indicating the user's sexual orientation), and "Address." [Read more](#)

[France Fines Discord under GDPR](#)

The French data privacy authority (DPA) [announced](#) that it will fine Discord, Inc. 800,000 euros under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Discord is a social messaging platform popular with gamers, technology enthusiasts, and the LGBTQ+ community. [Read more](#)

ENFORCEMENT + LITIGATION

[Class Action Filed Against Commonwealth of Massachusetts for Alleged COVID-19 Contact-Tracing Spyware Installation](#)

This week, a lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for its use of a COVID-19 contact-tracing app for residents' mobile phones. However, very few residents voluntarily downloaded the app. The solution? The lawsuit alleges that Massachusetts caused the app to be downloaded to certain residents' mobile devices without consent or knowledge. The [complaint](#) alleges that "on June 15, 2021, [the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)] worked with [a third party application developer] to secretly install the Contact Tracing App onto over one million Android mobile devices located in Massachusetts without the device owners' knowledge or permission." The complaint

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further alleges that “[w]hen some Android device owners discovered and subsequently deleted the App, DPH would re-install it onto their devices. [Read more](#)

NEW + NOW

[Beware of Luna Moth Callback Phishing Scams](#)

Palo Alto Network’s Unit 42 recently [issued](#) a threat assessment alert outlining a new, unique phishing scam that has been successful. The scam is believed to have been carried out by the Luna Moth/Silent Ransom Group and is targeting businesses in the legal and retail sectors. Unit 42 predicts that the scam is “expanding in scope.” [Read more](#)

DRONES

[Chula Vista Policy to Protect Residents from Certain Surveillance Technology](#)

The City Council of Chula Vista, California (in the San Diego metropolitan area), announced a new policy governing how city law enforcement can use technology to protect residents from data collected by surveillance equipment. The policy was developed by a city task force after the police department began using Automated License Plate Readers in 2020 and will now be effective. However, this new policy directly affects Chula Vista’s signature drone program. The goal of the policy is to require any kind of technology that city officials and law enforcement intend to use to be reviewed by the task force, which will then determine the impact the technology will have on the public and city systems and resident privacy. [Read more](#)

PRIVACY TIP #349

[College Students Targeted by Social Engineering Campaign Impersonating Instagram](#)

Dark Reading reports that thousands of college and university students are being targeted by cyber-attackers who are using a legitimate domain to impersonate Instagram to steal credentials of the users. This week’s Privacy Tip discusses how the attack is able to evade security measures of Microsoft 365 and Exchange. [Read more](#)

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