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Top Five Cybersecurity Tips: Managing Your Legal Risks

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Julia Kernochan Tama, Esq. Partner, Privacy and Data Security Practice, Venable LLP



Cybersecurity Tips for Lawyers

- 1. Know the Legal Rules
- 2. Assess Your Risks
- 3. Know Your Vendors
- 4. Prepare for the Worst
- 5. Stay Up-to-Date



Cybersecurity and Data Security

- Cybersecurity and data security are related concepts
- Cybersecurity focuses on protecting networks and infrastructure from attacks and bad actors and can include personal information
 - Networks, communications backbone, financial systems, etc.
- Data security focuses on securing personal information (*e.g.*, names, payment card numbers, Social Security numbers, etc.) from being accessed and/or acquired by unauthorized individuals
 - Consumer data breaches, lost laptops, etc.
- Different agencies and laws regulate different types of incidents, often with overlapping interests





- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) enforces federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices. The FTC interprets the law to require reasonable security for personal information.
- Practices that the FTC has identified as factors in reasonable security:
 - Minimizing the collection of personal information;
 - Failure to implement and enforce appropriate password policies;
 - Failure to use encryption to protect consumer information in storage and in transit;
 - Failure to perform due diligence of and oversight of service providers' cybersecurity practices;
 - Failure to provide employees with adequate cybersecurity training;
 - Failure to implement policies and procedures to detect and respond to a breach.





- State Data Security Laws
 - Nine states require that companies implement sufficient policies and procedures to maintain reasonable data security.
 - Typically apply based on individuals' residence, not the entity's location.
 - AR, CA, FL, CT, IN, MD, OR, TX, UT
- Massachusetts Standards for the Protection of Personal Information
 - MA has implemented detailed data security requirements that apply to associations and other legal entities.
 - Requires a written comprehensive information security program, with specific components and technical requirements.





- Data Disposal
 - About 30 states impose legal obligations on companies to properly dispose of records that contain personal, financial, or health information.
 - Laws vary by state and specific methods of disposal are not specified, but a common formulation is that the data must be made "*unreadable or indecipherable through any means*." Kans. Stat. Ann. § 50-7a03.
 - Federal secure disposal rules apply to specific types of data, such as nonpublic personal information held by financial institutions.





- Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS)
 - Regularly updated security standards created by the credit card industry
 - Practices and policies to protect accountholder data
- Implementation
 - Compliance steps for merchants depend on card processing volume
 - Qualified Security Assessors (QSAs) can assist
 - Information security policy is required
 - Service providers should be PCI DSS compliant
- Enforcement
 - Credit card brands require merchant banks to enforce compliance by their clients
 - Fines imposed on banks can be passed on to companies
 - States have enacted statutory requirements similar to PCI DSS





2. Assess Your Risks





- Sector-Specific Enforcement (*e.g.,* energy, financial services, health care, advertising, retail, etc.)
- FTC Enforcement
- State Attorney General Enforcement
- Congressional Investigations
- Class Action Lawsuits

- Policies/Procedures
- Governance
- Incident Response Plan
- Vendor Selection and Contracts
- Training
- Data Mapping

Legal Risk Management

- Reporting and Decision Making
- Legal and Regulatory Compliance Framework





2. Assess Your Risks

- Security program should be proportional to:
 - Data handled
 - Size and nature of business
- Administration began to focus on cybersecurity in earnest beginning in 2013 lacksquare
 - Executive Order 13636 directed the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST") to develop a baseline cybersecurity framework
- NIST released the Cybersecurity Framework in February 2014 lacksquare
 - **Voluntary** methodology and process for assessing and reducing cybersecurity risks in critical infrastructure sectors
 - Draft updated v. 1.1 released for comment on January 10, 2017; comments were due in April.



2. Assess Your Risks

- Perform an enterprise-wide vulnerability assessment
- Implement a comprehensive information security program that addresses any identified vulnerabilities
 - Periodically review and update the information security program
- Implement appropriate data security policies, such as:
 - Data Classification Policy
 - Password Strength Policy
 - Access Control Policy
 - Encryption Policy
 - Data Disposal Policy
 - Patch Management Policy
- Implement an Incident Response Plan





3. Know Your Vendors

- Select and oversee service providers with reasonable security programs (or you may be a service provider)
- Adequate cyber insurance coverage
- Consistent contract provisions related to security and breach response
 - Audits and audit reports
 - Insurance and indemnification
 - Notifying data owner of breach
 - External notifications / credit monitoring / responding to investigations
 - Restrictions on use/disclosure of data
 - Reps and warranties of compliance with privacy and security obligations
 - Data return and disposal





3. Know Your Vendors

- Specific concerns for vendors hired to help with security assessment and services for your business
- Security findings can be sensitive, and may create liability risks for the organization
- Consider structuring the engagement to ensure products are protected by attorney-client privilege to the extent possible



Cost of a data breach

- Many factors contribute to total costs:
 - Breach response efforts
 - Delivering notices, credit monitoring, legal costs, etc.
 - Reputational Costs
 - Customer and employee goodwill, media scrutiny
 - Litigation and/or Regulatory Defense
- Projected average cost of a breach:
 - 1,000 records: \$52,000 \$87,000
 - 100,000 records: \$366,500 \$614,600
 - 10 Million records: \$2,100,000 \$5,200,000
 - Source: 2015 Data Breach Investigations Report, Verizon (2015), available at http://www.verizonenterprise.com/DBIR/2015/





- Service providers face pressure or contract obligations to shoulder costs and/or tasks for data owners
- An effective incident response plan will facilitate:
 - Prompt detection, investigation, recovery;
 - Notification of and cooperation with law enforcement officials, if deemed necessary;
 - Notification to external parties affected by the incident, if any, such as customers, associates, or credit card companies;
 - Notification to cyber insurance provider, if necessary;
 - Notification to affected individuals, if required;
 - Notification to state or federal regulatory agencies, if required;
 - Review of security policies and procedures to prevent a reoccurrence.





Breach Response Timeline: "Sprinting a Marathon"







- Most states have implemented a data breach notification statute; federal legislation is being considered
- The requirements for notification can vary widely by state; many states require notice to state authorities and individuals
- Not all security incidents require notification
 - where a "breach" did not occur
 - where the information involved was not "personal information"
 - where there is no risk of harm to affected individuals
- Data owner typically has legal duty to notify affected individuals and government agencies; service provider notifies data owner





5. Stay Up-To-Date

- Cybersecurity risk management is not a "onetime" effort
- Legal standards and security threats are constantly evolving
- Consider periodic review and reassessment, particularly following a breach





Questions?

Julia Kernochan Tama

Partner Privacy and Data Security Practice Venable LLP <u>jktama@Venable.com</u> 202.344.4738

