

Cyber Security and Breach Response:
What Board Members and
Executive Leadership Need to Know

ALSTON &BIRD LLP





# Size and Scope? Is it Contained?

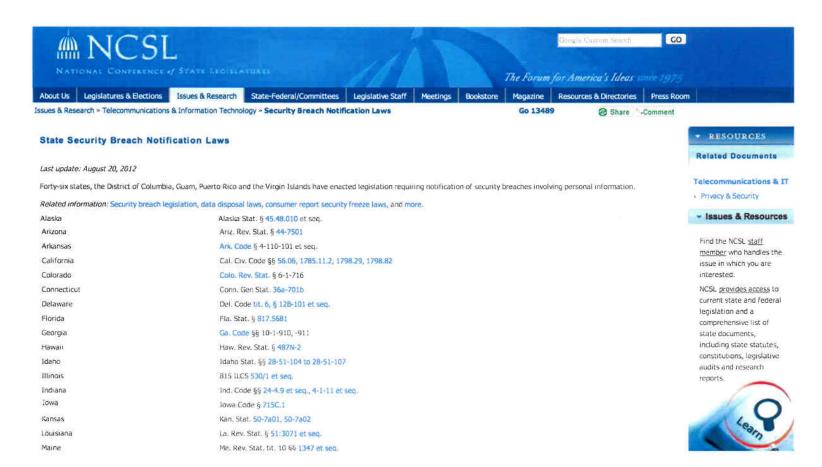








## What Type of Data?









## Where Was the Data?



Home

For the public

For organisations

What we cover



News release: 25 October 2012

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is reminding organisations that sensitive personal information should be encrypted when being stored and sent electronically.











### Communications Issues

# SEC Asks Companies to Disclose Cyberattacks, Data Breaches

Matt Liebowitz, SecurityNewsDaily Staff Writer October 14 2011 03:28 PM ET



CREDIT: Twentieth Century Fox View full size image

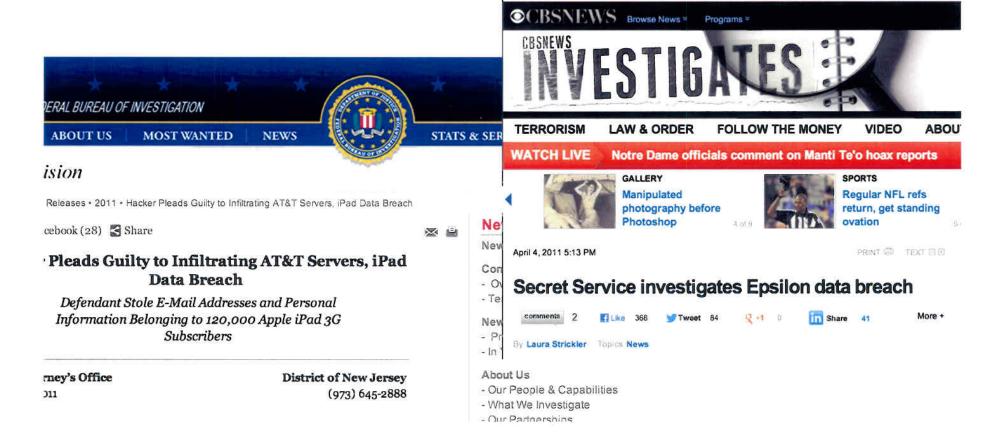
The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has formally asked publicly traded companies in the U.S. to disclose when they've been hacked or suffered a data breach. The request could drastically alter how corporations traditionally handle cybercrime attacks and the amount of staff and effort they use to prevent such incidents.

The SEC guidance, issued yesterday (Oct. 13), calls for corporations to disclose





# Dealing with Law Enforcement









## Kim Peretti





#### TJX Hacker Gets 20 Years in Prison

BY KIM ZETTER 03-25-10 2:02 PM Follow @KimZetter

Turvet 4 2 -1 1

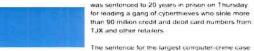
IVERSITY PRO BONO

CAREERS

Share

**PROFESSIONALS** 

RESOURCES



ever prosecuted is the lengthiest ever imposed in the United States for hacking or identity-theft Gonzalez was also fined \$25,000. Restitution, which will likely be in the tens of millions, was not decided Thursday

BOSTON - Convicted TJX hacker Albert Gonzalez

Clean-cut, wearing a beige jail uniform and wireframe glasses, the 28-year-old Gonzalez sat motionless at his chair during Thursday's. F: 202-654-497( proceedings, his hands folded in front of him

Before the sentence was pronounced, Gonzalez

T: 202-239-3720

Partner









Kimberly (Kim) Kiefer Peretti is a partner in the firm's White Collar Crime Group and co-chair of our Security Incident Management and Response Team. Ms. Peretti is also a former director of Pricewaterhouse Coopers' cyber forensic service practice and a former senior litigator for the Department of Justice's Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section. She focuses her practice on managing complex, technical electronic investigations and responses, often resulting from cyberintrusions and data breaches. She also services a wide range of clients in matters of cybersecurity; privacy; financial crime, fraud and regulation; payment systems compliance and risk mitigation; economic espionage; and intellectual property theft.

While at the Department of Justice, Kim led several benchmark cybercrime investigations and prosecutions, including the prosecution of the infamous TJX hacker Albert Gonzalez, currently serving 20 years in prison for his role in the largest hacking and identity theft case ever prosecuted by the department.

Related Services

Privacy & Data Security

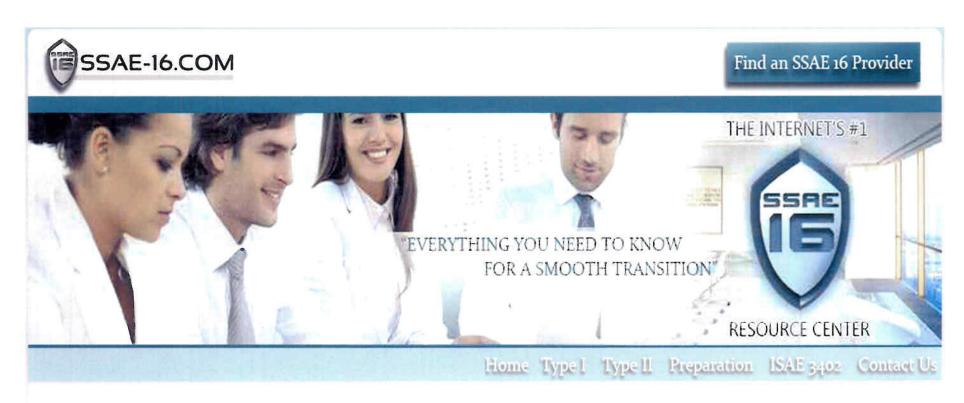
Security Incident Management & Response Team







## **Customer Issues**



The SSAE16 Auditing Standard

December 22nd, 2012

Which SOC Is Right





### Insurance

« WSJ.com

**CIO Journal Home** 

CIO Report: Consumerization Big Data Cloud Talent & M

CIO Report

May 29, 2012, 7:37 PM ET

## As Flame Spreads, Most Companies Lack Cybersecurity Coverage

Article

Comments

Get full access to CIO Journal now.

LEARN MORE »

ALSTON&BIRD





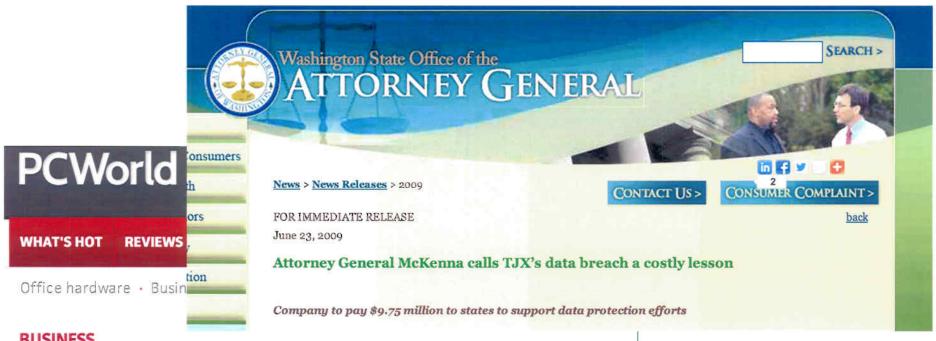
## Plaintiff's Exhibit A







## Regulators



#### BUSINESS

## FTC Settles Data Breach **Charges Against Two Firms**

By Grant Gross, IDG News Service

May 3, 2011 11:40 AM

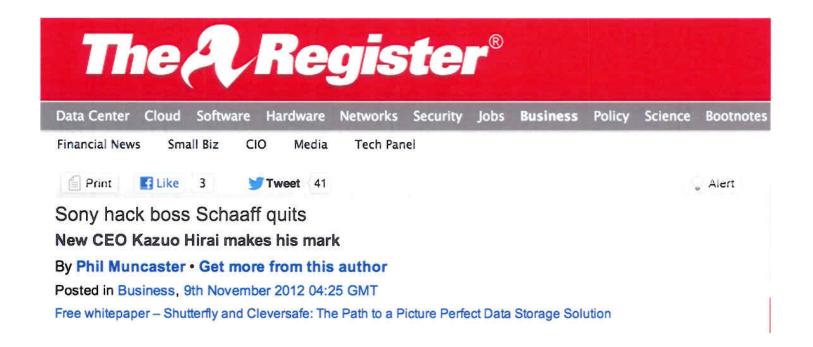








## **Personnel Dynamics**







## **Live-Fire Exercise**







# Legal Obligations of the Board

### Fiduciary Duty

- No legal duty on board to monitor for business risk.
- Business Judgment Rule generally applies to board's management of cyber risk.
- Board does have duty to "monitor" corporate controls and processes to prevent fraudulent or illegal actions.





## **Post-Breach Obligations**

- Directors should treat a material breach as a "red flag" requiring director oversight.
   Let the lawyers argue over the correct standard later.
- At the early stages of a breach, it is better for the board to assume that a breach implicates duty of oversight. A breach may raise issues of corporate compliance with rules and regulations regarding maintaining personal data and notifying regulatory authorities. It also raises challenging disclosure issues.
- The board should be informed and provide oversight with respect to management's handling of the breach.





## Practical Considerations for Board Oversight

 The board must gain understanding of the scope of the breach and the business and legal implications of the breach.

#### Board Involvement

- All board members need to become informed—be thoughtful about notetaking and communications among board members and management.
- Consider using a committee for daily or more regular communications.
- Consider what discussions should be privileged.
- Consider having a third party engaged in the investigation or remediation speak directly to the board or committee.
- Help the directors understand what they are being told. Breach technology is complex and can be daunting to the uninitiated.





## **Issues to Consider**

- Has the breach been contained? (APT) Is it safe to operate the business?
- Whether the hacker has obtained personal data or personal health information about employees, customers or vendors
- Legal obligations to disclose the breach to persons affected by the breach
- Other legal reporting obligations
  - Securities and Exchange Commission (October 2011 Disclosure Guidance)
  - State Regulators
  - FTC
  - Foreign Regulators
  - Etc.
- General Media Interaction
- Trading Windows





## **Document What You Know**

- A breach generally creates a dynamic situation where knowledge of the scope and impact of the breach change during the course of the investigation and remediation.
- Plaintiffs, the SEC and privacy regulators (among others) will inquire into what the company/board knew at the time of its disclosures.
- It is critical to thoroughly document what knowledge you have at the time you make a disclosure. Consider privilege issues.
- It is difficult to reconstruct events 1-2 years later without a good record.
- Confirm your information with third-party experts who are working on the breach to make sure that you have current information.
- Avoid "spinning the story" to minimize the impact of a breach, particularly where investigation is not complete and you may have to correct or update your prior disclosure.





## New "Vectors" of Threats for Data Breaches

#### **YESTERDAY**

#### Bad "Actors"

- Isolated Criminals
- "Script Kiddies"

"Target of Opportunity"

### **Targets**

- Identity Theft
- Self-promotion Opportunities
- Theft of Services

#### **TODAY**

#### **Bad "Actors"**

- Organized Criminals
- Foreign States
- Hactivists

"Target of Choice"

### **Targets**

- Intellectual Property
- Financial Information
- Strategic Access





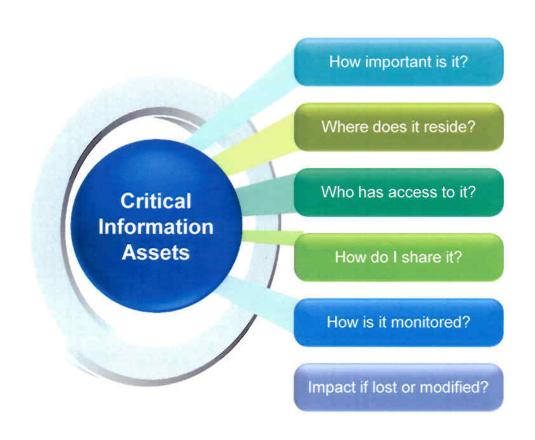


# Thinking about Information Assets Differently

Information assets drive business value but there are key questions to consider when planning how to govern critical information:

- Do we know which data is most valuable?
- Do we know how to maximize the use of it or the impact of loss to our organization?
- How do we control the information in alignment to the value it provides?

Leading organizations are focusing on implementing information governance programs to answer these questions.









# Advanced Persistent Threat = The New "State of the Art"

Most organizations have invested in information security and protection. They have **established programs**, **policies and technical controls** to protect information assets. The challenge is that these programs often **cannot keep pace** with the advanced new approaches and technical "attack vectors" that the bad actors are using.

Once a bad actor has identified your organization, they will continue to attempt multiple approaches and consider many different types of attacks to gain access to your information. They will often use **cutting-edge**, **state-of-the-art technologies** or prey upon **common lapses in security**, such as social engineering. They will continue multiple variations until they gain access. This approach is commonly referred to as Advanced Persistent Threat, or APT.

To combat APT, organizations must be prepared to **continually evolve**, **adjust and update** their information protection program to react to changes driven by new business drivers, new technology solutions, or driven by approaches to newly discovered threats. Security budgets are expected to increase over time rather than plateau or eventually shrink. This is the new reality.

ALSTON&BIRD I.I.P



# Framework for Board Discussions about Cyber Risk

#### **Business Layer**

**Geopolitical Drivers** 

**Industry Leading Practices** 

Corporate Objectives

**Business Process** 

**Enablement Layer** 

Application

Data

Infrastructure Layer

Servers/Hosts

**Networks** 

Physical Environment

### ALSTON&BIRD II.

#### AREAS OF DYNAMIC CHANGE

- Slow Economic Recovery
- Driving Growth & Profitability
- New Products/Services
- Mergers/Acquisitions
- Globalization
- Strategic Sourcing
- Competitive Differentiation
- Increased Regulatory Scrutiny
- Mobile & Cloud Deployments
- · "Big Data," BI & Analytics
- Self-Service & Consumerization
- Virtualization & Cloud Platforms
- Internetworking/VPNs
- New Operating Systems
- Low-Cost Computing Models
- · Changing DataCenter Models





# Some Questions to Consider from the Board's Perspective

#### Portfolio Risks

- What are our major IT risks? Where do these compare against other significant enterprise risks?
- Who is responsible for the governance and oversight of these risks?
- What is the ongoing mechanism to review these risks and their impact? How often is this updated?

#### Execution Risks

- Do we have a formal data strategy?
- Do we have a set of controls to protect our critical information?
- Do we have a formal plan for cloud computing adoption? Are we piloting cloud?
   What is the approach to cloud governance?





# Some Questions to Consider from the Board Perspective

#### Competitive Risks

- Do we have a social media policy? Are all employees training on the policy?
   How do we monitor use?
- How are we protecting our mobile devices? Have there been issues of loss or theft?

#### Service & Security Risks

- Do we have a dedicated resource responsible for information security?
- Have we evaluated our risk of security attack? How about our supply chain?
   Are we considered "Critical Infrastructure" by the U.S. government?
- What's our response plan if we were attacked? How would we respond?
- When was the last time we updated our business continuity program? When was the last time the disaster recovery was plan tested?





Cyber Security and Breach Response:
What Board Members and
Executive Leadership Need to Know

ALSTON &BIRD

