

CALIFORNIA WESTERN

SCHOOL OF LAW | San Diego

Notice of Data Breach

Dear CWSL Alumni,

We are writing to inform you, out of an abundance of caution, about a data security incident that may have involved your personal information.

What Happened?

A third party vendor, Blackbaud, Inc. (the company that stores our fundraising data and services thousands of non-profits globally) notified us of a ransomware attack on its hosting system. Blackbaud informed us of the incident on July 16, 2020. Our internal data storage systems were not affected by the security incident.

What Information Was Involved?

According to Blackbaud, the ransomware attack **did not disclose any credit card data, bank account data, social security numbers, or other sensitive financial information, all of which was safely encrypted**. Blackbaud has not provided us with specific information yet about the type of client information accessed during the incident, but we have been working with their customer representatives and security personnel to get confirmation of the details. It is possible that contact information for some individuals may have been compromised, however, Blackbaud believes it has prevented the dissemination of any data that was accessed.

What Blackbaud is Doing.

Blackbaud has informed us there is no reason to believe that any data was or will be misused or will be further disseminated or otherwise made available publicly. Blackbaud has hired a third-party team of experts to continue monitoring for any such activity.

As part of its ongoing efforts to help prevent something like this from happening in the future, Blackbaud has affirmed that it has already implemented changes to protect its system from any subsequent incidents: They have identified the vulnerability associated with this incident, including the tactics used by the cybercriminal, and taken actions to fix it. They have also confirmed through testing by multiple third parties, including the appropriate platform vendors, that their fix withstands all known attack tactics.

What We Are Doing.

We take this event very seriously. We are deeply invested in the safety and well-being of our entire community, especially our community of members, donors and volunteers like you. We are continuing to communicate with Blackbaud and are working closely with our own security and legal teams, and as we learn more about the security incident, we will provide you with updates.

What You Can Do.

In the meantime, we recommend as always to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious activity, phone calls, emails, or suspected identity theft to law enforcement and the appropriate service provider.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing Tabatha Abeyta, our Director of Philanthropy at tabeyta@cwsl.edu with the subject line "Blackbaud Security."

The following link provides additional details: https://www.thenonproffitimes.com/npt_articles/breaking-blackbaud-hacked-ransom-paid/

Sincerely,

Bruce MacDonald

VP, Institutional Advancement

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