



## Ransomware—What you Need to Know

### Preparedness & Response Checklist:

#### Response Planning Actions

- Incident Response Plan (w/Communications)
- Cyber-insurance (“cyber extortion” coverage)
- Know how and where to obtain Bitcoin  
(Example: [www.coinbase.com](http://www.coinbase.com))
- Backups
  - Include ALL critical systems, securely.
  - Air gapped (i.e., off network) backups.
  - Maintain adequate retention period to mitigate against dormant malware.

#### Preventative Actions

- Require multi-factor authentication for remote access
- Training/Awareness
- Phishing/Spam filters
- Eliminate Local Administrator access
- Patch! Don't delay
- Disable macros in Word/Excel/PowerPoint/etc.
- Enforce Least Privilege Access  
(at minimum, set as “read-only”)
- Advanced Antivirus – scan often
- Restrict and Detect scripting where possible:
  - PowerShell
  - HTML applications
  - PHP
  - VBScript
  - JavaScript
  - WSF & WSH
- Restrict access to file sharing & public email sites
- Intrusion Prevention System (IPS)
- Security log monitoring



#### Ransomware Immediate Response Actions

- Isolate the infected system (disconnect from network)
- Isolate or power-off other computers and devices to prevent infection
- Secure backups! Make certain that backup data is safe from attack
- Change all online and network passwords
- Contact cyber insurance carrier
- Contact local FBI field office, or FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3)



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### Ransomware Resources:

#### Ransomware Self-Assessment Tool (R-SAT)

- Designed to identify gaps within an institution's current efforts to mitigate ransomware attacks
- Released by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) in collaboration with the Bankers Electronic Crimes Taskforce (BECTF), State Bank Regulators, & the United States Secret Service
- Can be used for any industry, though primarily for financial institutions
- Voluntary, though mandatory for financial institutions in some states

R-SAT can be found at:

<https://www.csbs.org/ransomware-self-assessment-tool>

#### Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

- In response to DarkSide ransomware attack, CISA released “Best Practices for Preventing Business Disruption from Ransomware Attacks”:

<https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ncas/alerts/aa21-131a>



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