

PROTECT YOUR MEDIATION PRACTICE FROM HACKERS

CHRISTOPHER B. HOPKINS

MCDONALD HOPKINS LLC

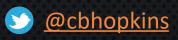






CHRISTOPHER B. HOPKINS McDonald Hopkins

CHOPKINS@MCDONALDHOPKINS.COM





www.linkedin.com/in/cbhopkins/

InternetLawCommentary.com

From: Shawn M. Riley >

SR

To: Christopher Hopkins >

Hide

Re: Request

Today at 8:12 AM

Can you help me with a quick task please?



McDonald Hopkins elects Shawn M. Riley as its next president

CRAIN'S CLEVELAND BUSINESS

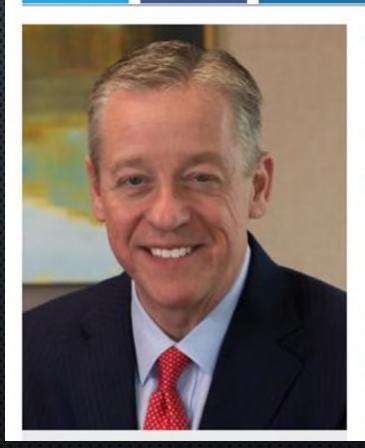


f SHARE

in SHARE







Cleveland law firm McDonald Hopkins LLC will have a new president this fall.

The business advisory and advocacy firm said it has elected Shawn M. Riley as president, effective Oct. 1. Carl J. Grassi, the firm's current president, will become chairman and will remain on the Executive Committee. according to a news release. The firm said in the release that when Riley becomes president, Grassi will have served for more than nine years as president, a position that is term-limited. "This is a carefully crafted transition that has been in the planning stages for quite some time," Grassi said in a statement. "Shawn has been an essential part of our leadership team during my tenure as president. He is dedicated to the success of our clients, our firm and our communities. We strongly believe in collaboration and the transition will be a smooth one." Riley joined McDonald Hopkins in 1995. Since 2007, he has served as managing member of the Claveland office and has been a



From: Shawn M. Riley >

SR

To: Christopher Hopkins >

Hide

Re: Request

Today at 8:12 AM

Can you help me with a quick task please?







Shawn M. Riley









other

leonardx8@triad.rr.com

Cancel Re: Request Send

MH

To: Shawn M. Riley



Cc/Bcc, From: chopkins@mcdonaldhopkins.com

Subject: Re: Request

On May 27, 2019, at 8:12 AM, Shawn M. Riley <leonardx8@triad.rr.com> wrote:

Can you help me with a quick task please?



That is a "Business Email Compromise" Attack



Let's Spot The Fakes!

(with remote working, business email compromise attacks are more likely)



Cb, log into Facebook with one click



Facebook

Hi Cb,

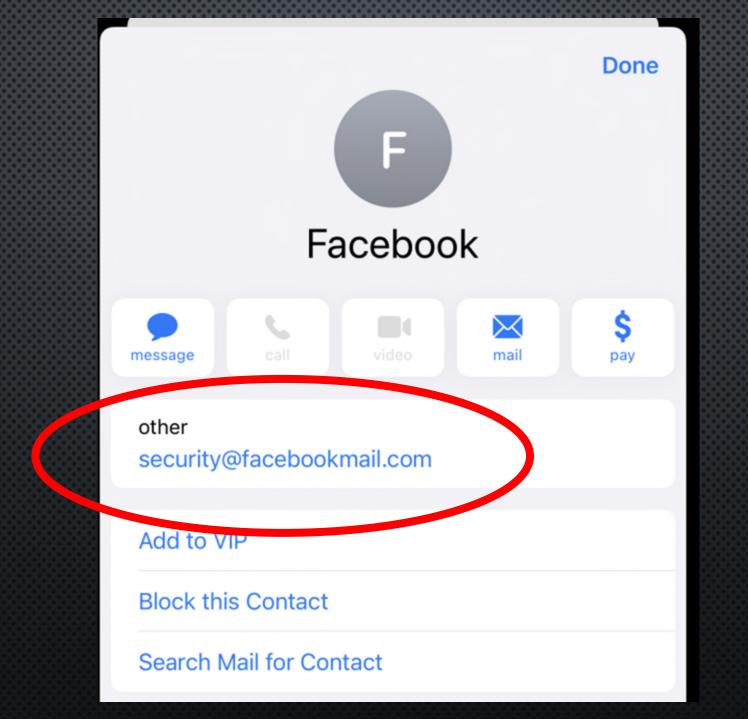
We noticed you're having trouble logging into your account. If you need help, click the button below and we'll log you in.

Log In With One Click

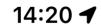
Why did you receive this email?

There was an unsuccessful login attempt on your account. If this wasn't you, let us know.



















From: Chase Bank >

To: Cbh >

Today at 14:16

Re: 2nd attempt for Cbh

Cbh, Chase Bank Has a Surprise For



PO Box 41529,,PMB 78292,Memphis,TN,38174 To opt-out please click here







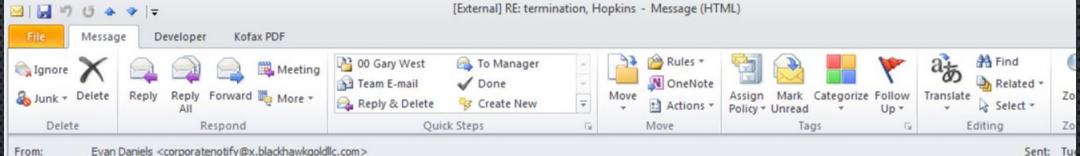
They don't love me that much

"Private Mail Box" gives you a street address so you don't use a PO Box

No spacing

typos





Evan Daniels <corporatenotify@x.blackhawkgoldllc.com> From:

Hopkins, Christopher To:

Cc:

Subject: [External] RE: termination, Hopkins

Hopkins, why i can't reach you on the phone? I am on my way to Mc Donald Hopkins.

Because of customer complaint #7592 on you from last Friday, we will process termination process.

here is a copy in PDF: https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-

1vTVCHKzmdSD2wX03GTnyBToo4xvldfGqtFWZiz5bT5cTRozW4Xk5H6GER0GmscSPqnpyFtokphDl- U/pub

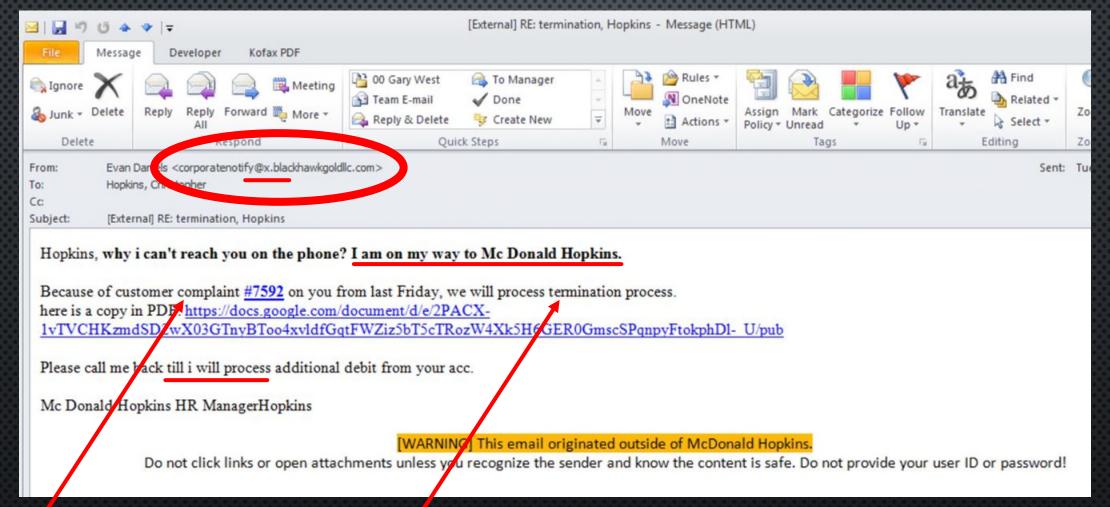
Please call me back till i will process additional debit from your acc.

Mc Donald Hopkins HR ManagerHopkins

[WARNING] This email originated outside of McDonald Hopkins.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Do not provide your user ID or password!





Urgency is a hallmark of a scam

From: Jessica Bloomfield >

To: Christopher Hopkins >





Litigation representative required

Today at 4:22 PM

Hello,

My name is Jessica Bloomfield . I would like to retain your firm

on a

civil litigation matter . Kindly advice if you can take my case.Please let me know if i should send supporting documents so you can review to understand .

Thanks J.Bloomfield







Jessica Bloomfield



message



call



video



mail

other

anglais@evoice.co.uk



Fri 1/7/2022 10:52 AM

chopkins - Notifications <abessette@unitedscc.com>

[External] Scheduled Payment Notification

To Hopkins, Christopher



Action Items

This Message Is Trusted By mcdonaldhopkins.com

Kindly review the attached document for payment.

Document secured for chopkins

File name: <a>™-chopkins.pdf

Sender: 16456473342

For Recipient: chopkins@mcdonaldhopkins.com

Encrypted By mcdonaldhopkins.com

NEC SL4273 SharePoint

This email was sent to chopkins@mcdonaldhopkins.com



Step 1: Identify a Target



Organized crime groups target U.S. and European businesses, exploiting information available online to develop a profile on the company and its executives.

Step 2: Grooming



Spear phishing e-mails and/or telephone calls target victim company officials (typically an individual identified in the finance department).

Perpetrators use persuasion and pressure to manipulate and exploit human nature.

Grooming may occur over a few days or weeks.

Step 3: Exchange of Information



The victim is convinced he/she is conducting a legitimate business transaction. The unwitting victim is then provided wiring instructions.

Step 4: Wire Transfer

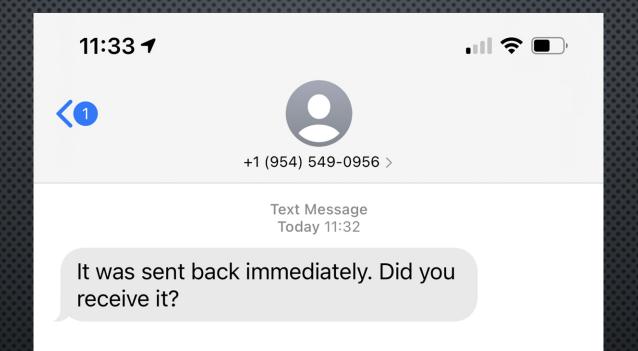




Upon transfer, the funds are steered to a bank account controlled by the organized crime group.

*Note: Perpetrators may continue to groom the victim into transferring more funds.

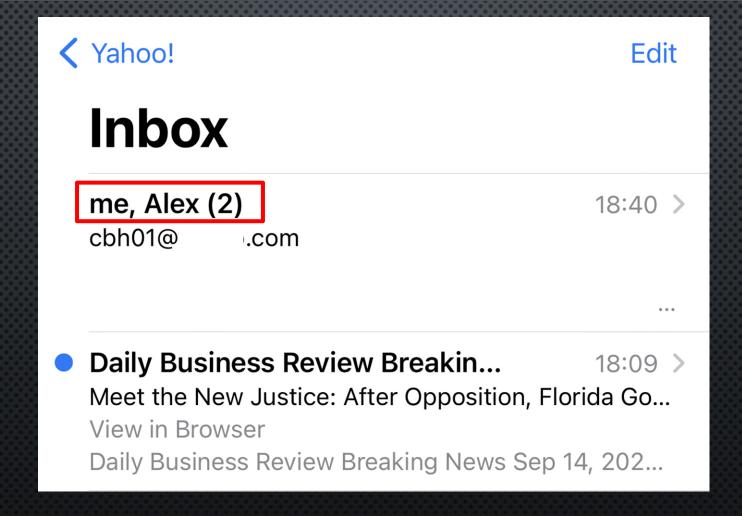




Don't respond to unknown numbers or texts...



Final note: watch out for emails which looks like discussions





Ways To Get Hacked #2

(let's talk about that wifi you're connected to...)







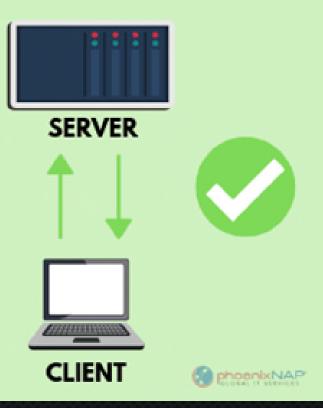
Wifi Pineapple

(Man In The Middle Attack)

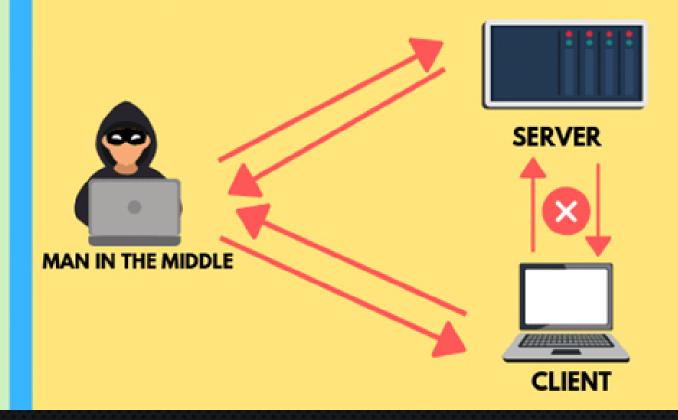


MIDDLE IN THE MIDDLE ATTACK EXAMPLE

NORMAL CONNECTION



MAN IN MIDDLE CONNECTION



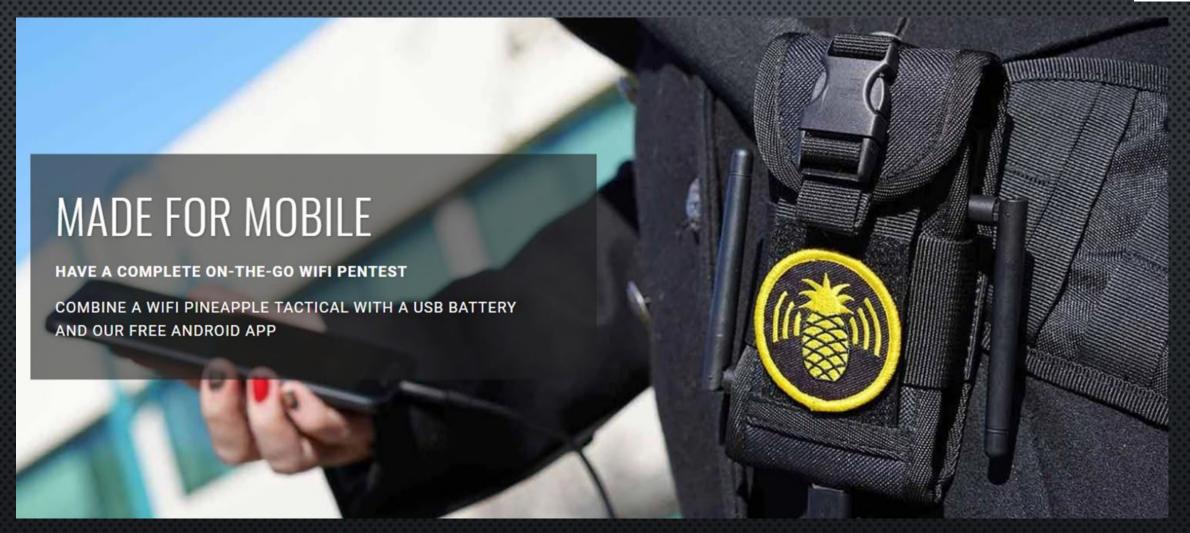










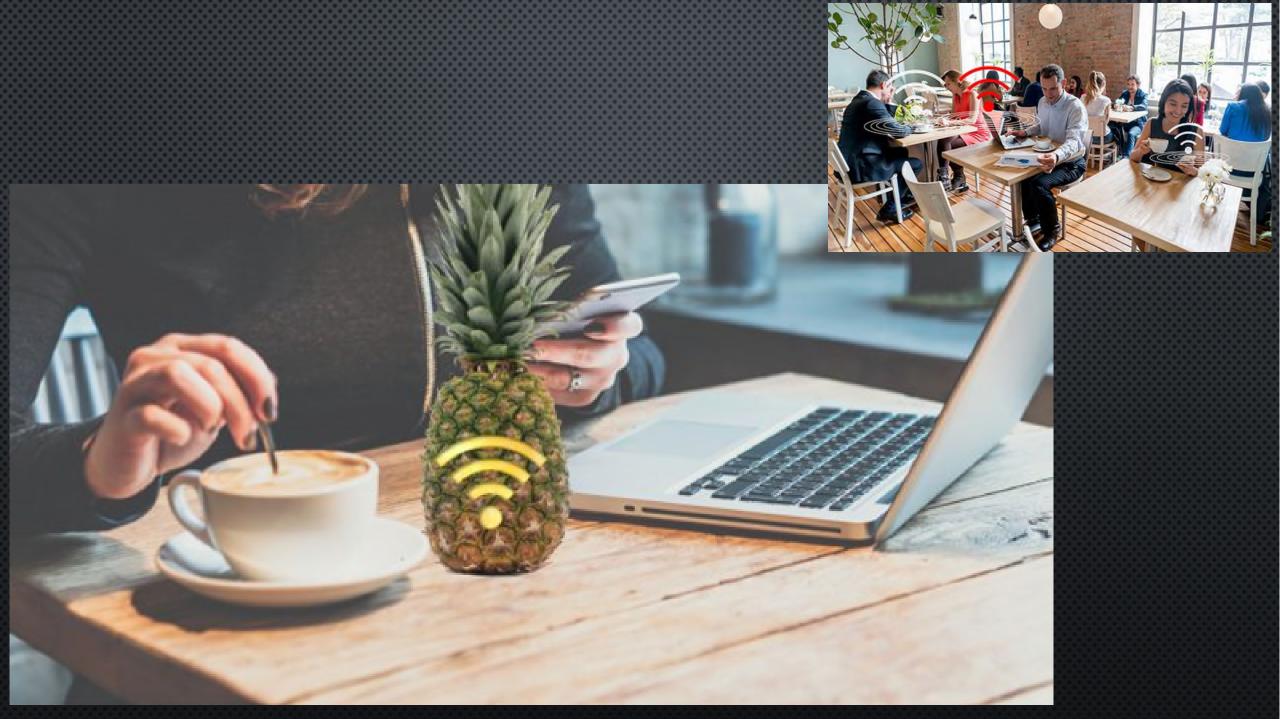








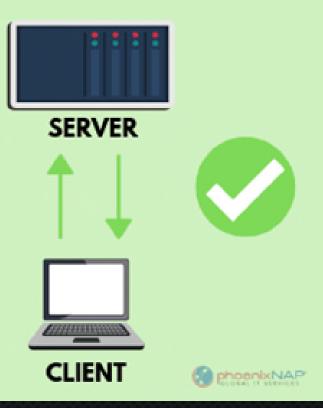
Your device is looking for familiar WiFi



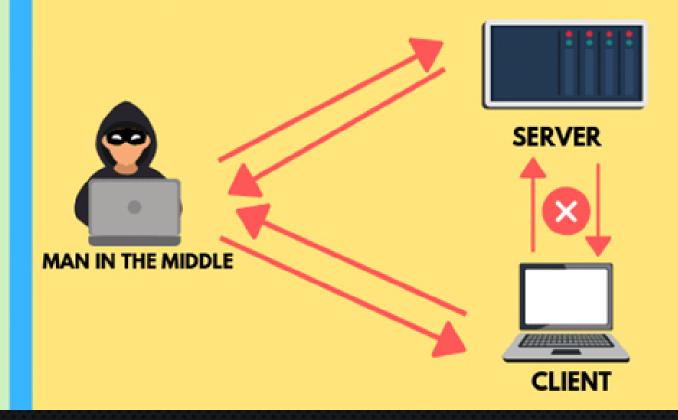


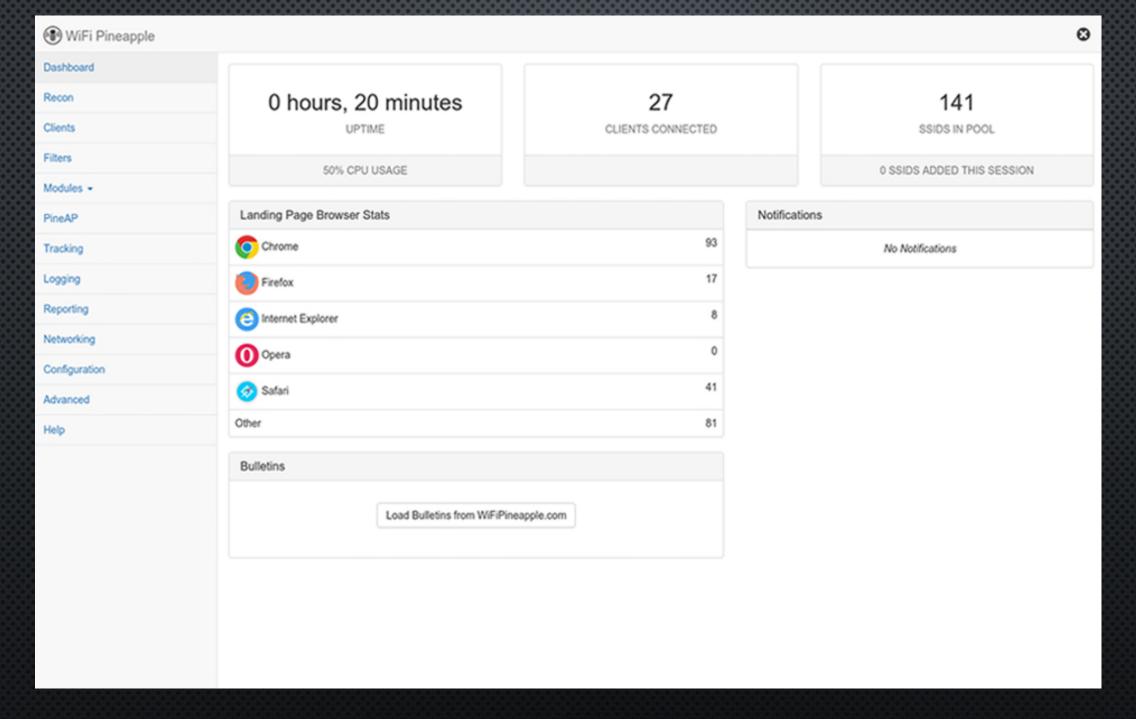
MIDDLE IN THE MIDDLE ATTACK EXAMPLE

NORMAL CONNECTION



MAN IN MIDDLE CONNECTION











MARK VII BASIC \$109.99

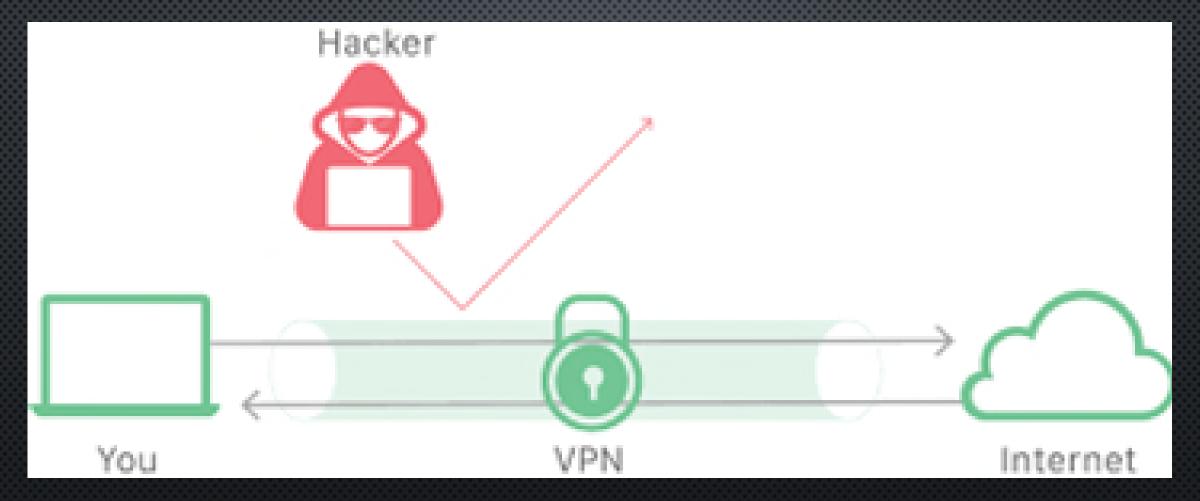


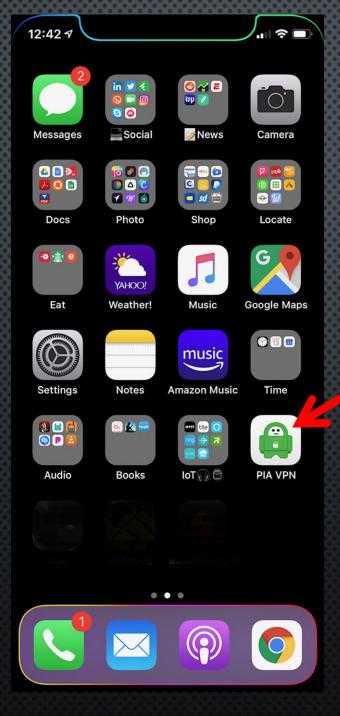
MARK VII+AC TACTICAL \$199.99



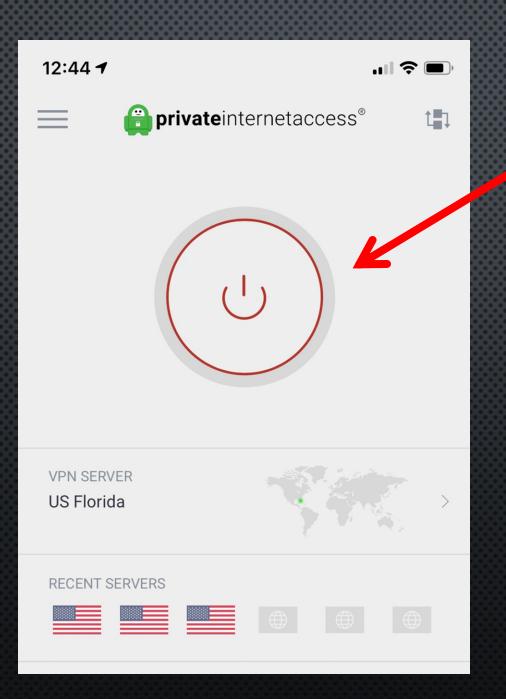
SOLUTION: Virtual Private Network (VPN)



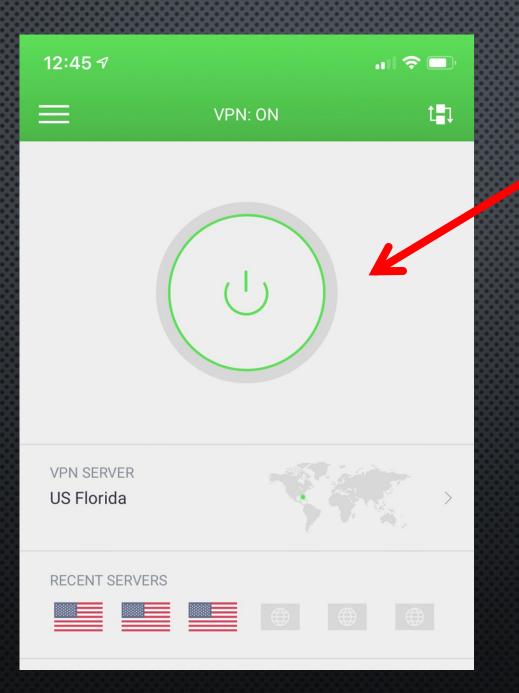














12:44 🖊





Settings



Christopher Hopkins

Apple ID, iCloud, iTunes & App Store



Airplane Mode



Wi-Fi





Bluetooth





Cellular



VPN





PARTIII Recent Cases



Business Email Compromise Cases



#1	From: Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 3:55 PM To Cc:		
	Subject: Importance: High	pending invoices	
	Hello		
	Kindly cancel the payment because I stated to my email earlier today to that we can't receive payment to our account details which you have on records due to some issue which we have with the account currently.		

So, kindly cancel the payment and let me know once it has been cancelled so that I can provide you with our updated ACH account details for payment.

Awaiting your urgent response!



From:

Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 3:55 PM

To

Cc:

Subject: pending invoices

Importance: High

Email came from legit address!

What are the warning signs?

How avoid the risk?

Hello

Kindly cancel the payment because I stated to my email earlier today to that we can't receive payment to our account details which you have on records due to some issue which we have with the account currently.

So, kindly cancel the payment and let me know once it has been cancelled so that I can provide you with our updated ACH account details for payment.

Awaiting your urgent response!







Real Estate Transaction Case

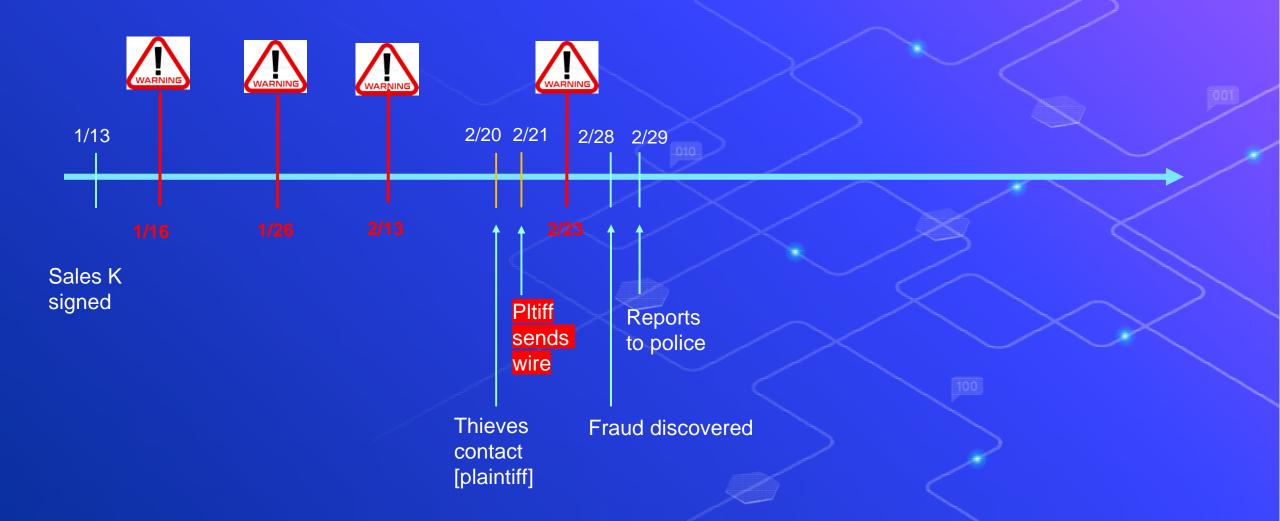
Are these warnings in the signature block good enough??



*** Due to the risk of cyber threats, prior to wiring or depositing monies into our account, please call our office to verbally verify wiring instructions.

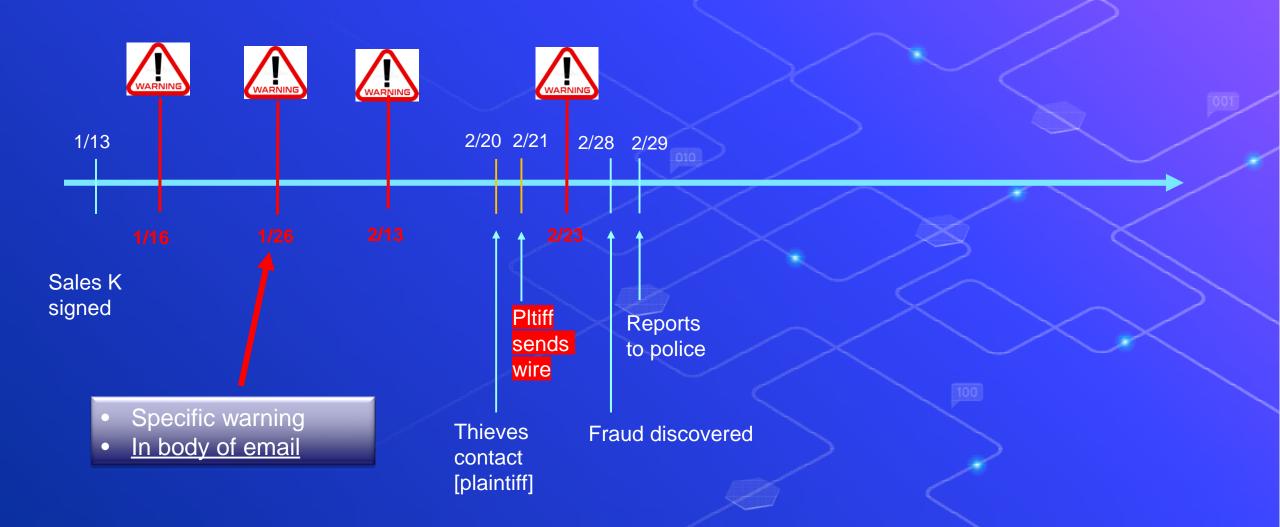


[Plaintiff] Timeline





[Plaintiff] Timeline







Good afternoon

- 1. Your mailing address after closing (where you would like the deed, tax bill, etc. sent);
- 2. Confirm your marital status;
- Confirm how you are taking title. Please select, sign and send back the attached title vesting sheet;
- 4. Will this be your primary residence?;
- 5. Are you able to come to our office to close?
- 6. Please sign and send back the attached survey authorization; and
- 7. Please provide me the name and contact information for the Lender you are using.

**All funds due at closing will need to be wired to our account, wiring instructions will be sent once we have confirmed the final cash to close amount. For your protection, please call our office before sending any wires.

Thank-you for your help and when we get closer to closing we will arrange with you the signing of closing documents. Please call or email with any questions. We look forward to a smooth transaction.









20. Upon information and belief, an unknown third party hacked into one or more email accounts used by Defendant to gain information about the real estate transaction and then used that information in order to realistically spoof the Defendant's email account and send fraudulent wire transfer instructions to the Plaintiffs. The wire transfer instructions directed Plaintiffs to transfer money to a bank account controlled by the unknown party.





 Relative to the allegations in paragraph of the Complaint, please identify any person(s) with personal knowledge that "an unknown third party hacked into one or more email accounts used by the Defendant..."

ANSWER: Plaintiffs have not identified any individual with personal knowledge of the facts alleged, however discovery is ongoing.





Home

Notify me

Domain search

Who's been pwned

Passwords

I Al

About I

Donate 🛱 🧖



';--have i been pwned?

Check if your email or phone is in a data breach

email or phone (international format)

pwned?



Generate secure, unique passwords for every account

Learn more at 1Password.com

Why 1Password?



';--have i been pwned?

Check if your email or phone is in a data breach

defendant@email.com

pwned?



Good news — no pwnage found!

No breached accounts and no pastes (subscribe to search sensitive breaches)





';--have i been pwned?

Check if your email or phone is i data breach

plaintiff@email.com

pwned?

Oh no — pwned!

Pwned in 9 data breaches and found no pastes (subscribe to search sensitive breaches)





houzz

Houzz: In mid-2018, the housing design website Houzz suffered a data breach. The company learned of the incident later that year then disclosed it to impacted members in February 2019. Almost 49 million unique email addresses were in the breach alongside names, IP addresses, geographic locations and either salted hashes of passwords or links to social media profiles used to authenticate to the service. The data was provided to HIBP by dehashed.com.

Compromised data: Email addresses, Geographic locations, IP addresses, Names, Passwords, Social media profiles, Usernames



Thieves Fool Plaintiff into Sending Wire



Your closing disclosure has been finalized and we're clear to close, You need to have the cash to close wire to our trust account today to avoid closing delay let me know if you can take care of it so i can forward you the wiring instructions.

yes we are ready to send wire. Need amount and where/who to

See attached wiring instructions, when will wire be sent so i can watch for it.

Good morning,

Has wire been sent?

Yes, I just got home.



Hours Later Via SMS, Plaintiff TELLS Realtor!



Plaintiff



Realtor

The wire transfer has been made and confirmed by the closing agent.

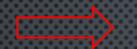
it looks like the closing won't happen till Monday. Will you be back then.



How Did Realtor Miss It?



Realtor



Yes, but Monday is my anniversary and

without

which could take 3 to 4 days

would push for possibly Tuesday or Wednesday closing

Plaintiff ()



Realtor

Ok are you guys having fun 🥯

We're doing our best little added stress with this file to closing on time but it's fun





should reach out to you shortly about how much to wire to title





Money was wired last week





NoYou did not wire any money to the title company





Yes I did ,???.?!





doesn't even handle wire and they have a multi layered system where they call you and then email you and then have you call the office back to ensure that there's no fraudulent wiring going on





Also isn't enough even with the \$,000 credit the amount is and some change





We've got a problem that is not 's email address



Not Just Liability: Bar Discipline!



4-1. CLIENT-LAWYER RELATIONSHIP RULE 4-1.1 COMPETENCE

A lawyer must provide competent representation to a client. Competent representation requires the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness, and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation.



Maintaining competence

To maintain the requisite knowledge and skill, a lawyer should keep abreast of changes in the law and its practice, engage in continuing study and education, including an understanding of the benefits and risks associated with the use of technology, and comply with all continuing legal education requirements to which the lawyer is subject.





CYBERSECURITY: LAWYERS NEED A BACK UP PLAN FOR THEIR BACKUP PLAN



Criminals are growing more sophisticated, and backing up data, while a good idea, is not always successful



A May 2021 ransomware attack that temporarily shut down the Colonial Pipeline — and ignited a gas panic on the East Coast — was a wakeup call for then Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Donald A. Myers, Jr.

Concerned, Myers worked with the court clerk to conduct a cybersecurity review.





"We developed a <u>written information security plan</u>," he said. "There was already one in place, but we found it a good opportunity to update it, ensuring that it covers all of the data and the inventory of data that we were managing, and then put into place a regular review period."

Myers also developed a data breach response plan.

"We needed to know who was responsible for doing what, how it would be done, and who needed to be contacted, how it would work as a process," Myers said.

"We actually <u>role-played different scenarios</u> that we had seen playing out, to ensure that we were prepared to respond to those things and more," he said.

Finally, Myers developed a cybersecurity education plan.



Quick Side Trip to The Dark Web





Deep Web

Netbanking

Research Papers

Medical Records

Private forums

Private networks

Hidden wiki

Dark Web

Tor Anomymous
Illegal Information Silk Road



Tor

Illegal Information Silk Road

Dark Web

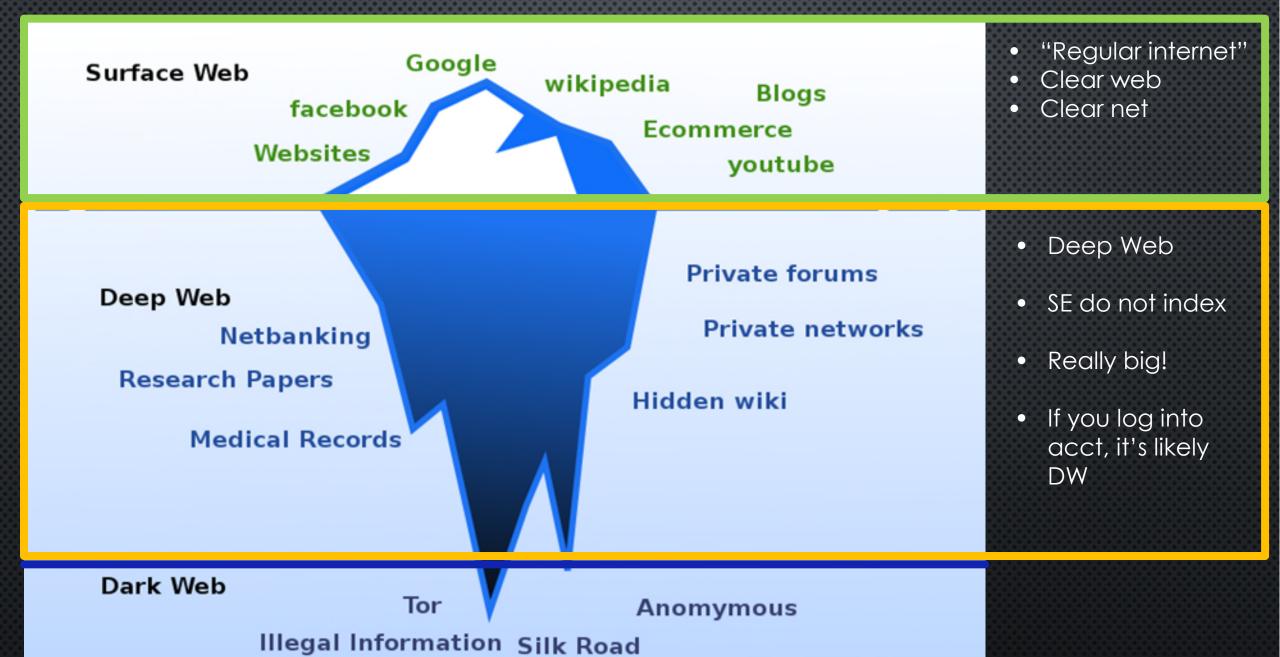
- "Regular internet"
- Clear web
- Clear net

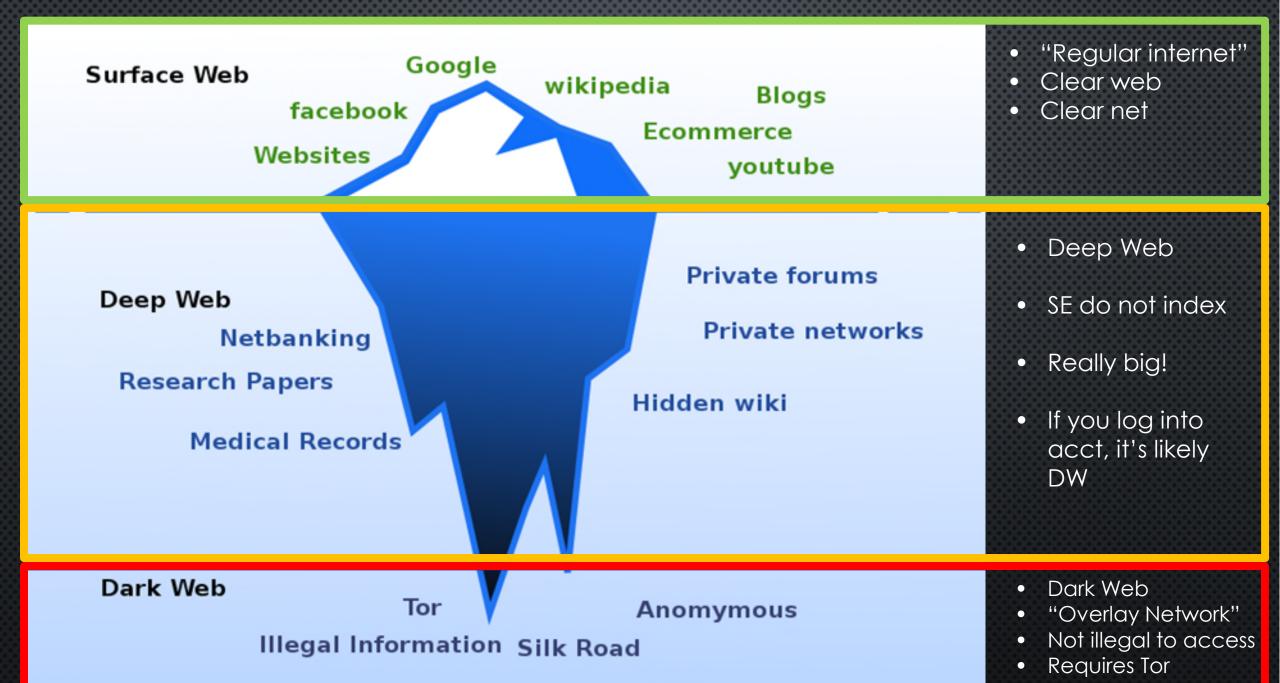
Deep Web

Netbanking
Research Papers

Hidden wiki

Anomymous







www.TorProject.org



About Documentation Support Community Blog Donate

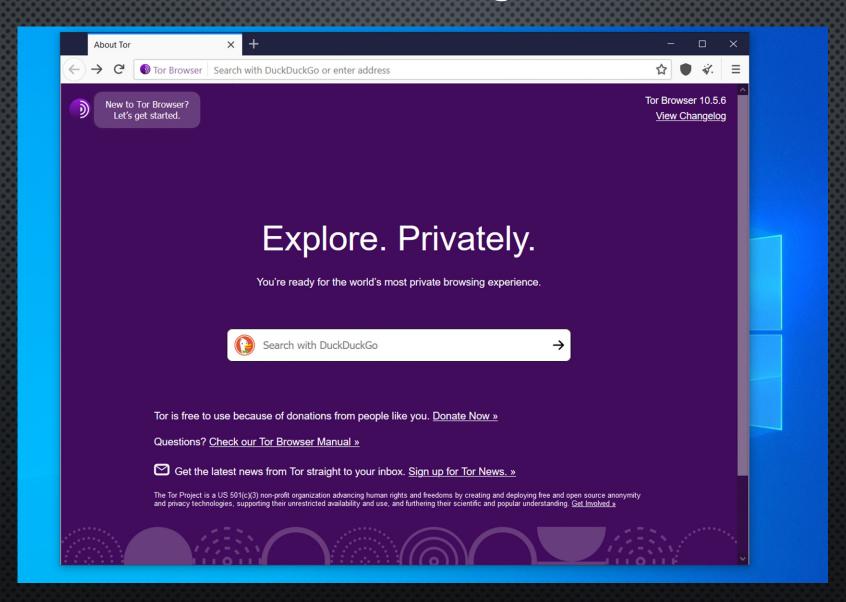
Browse Privately. Explore Freely.

Defend yourself against tracking and surveillance. Circumvent censorship.

Download Tor Browser **↓**

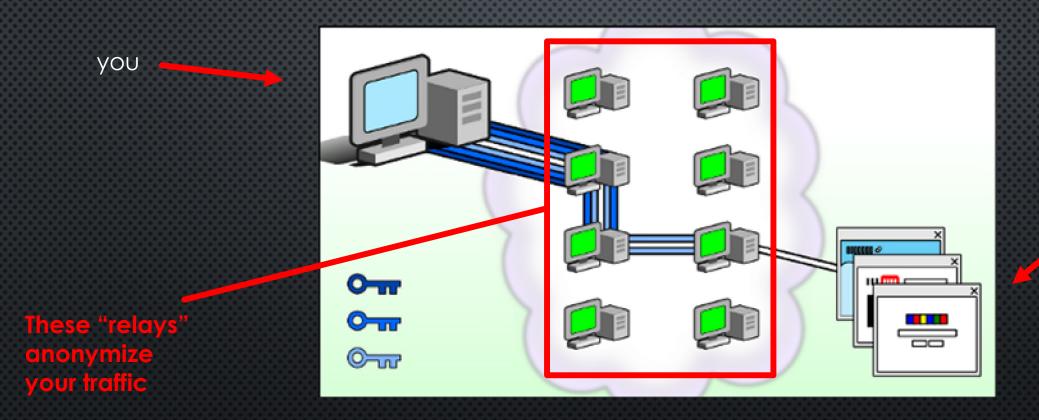
Tor looks like a regular browser











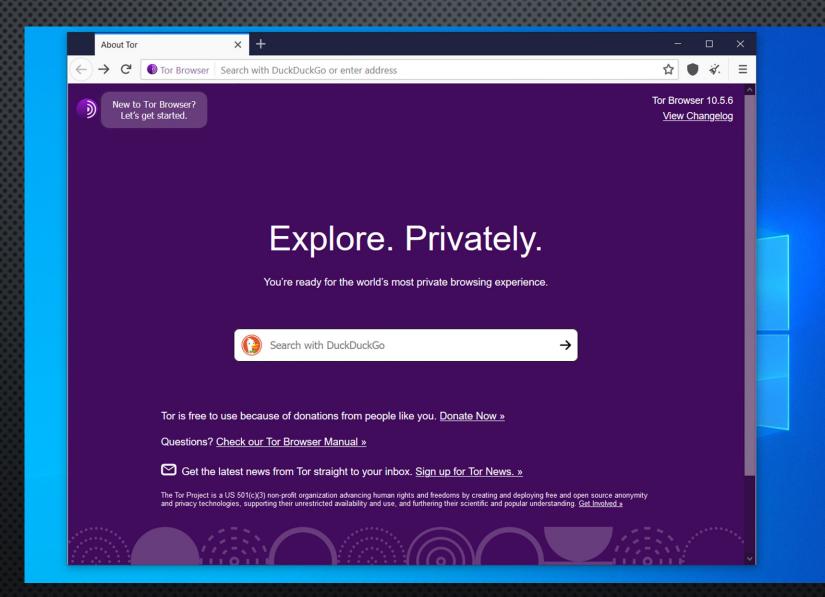
Website (regular website OR onion site which is overlayed on top of the regular internet

... and it is anonymized

(your ISP sees your on Tor, that's it)

OK, I'm on Tor. Now what?





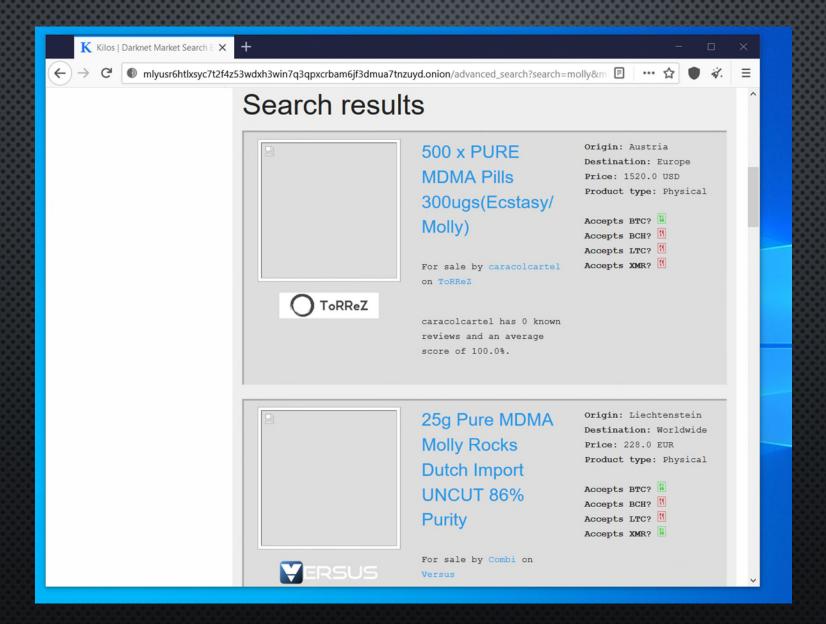
A lot of the DW involves marketplaces



K Kilos Darknet Market Search E X	+ ×
← → ♂ ⋒ mlyusr6htlxsyc7t2f4z	z53wdxh3win7q3qpxcrbam6jf3dmua7tnzuyd.onion/advanced_search?search=ecstacy& 🗉 🚥 🕉 🛢
■ Search now!	
H Kilos Account	
H Kilos Finance	
₩ Social	
₩ Education	lamit
Hosting	dumaga
Misc	4750042436
Kilos is supported by	ONION 2x
DARLA	
MARKETPLACE	Search query
SHOP NOW OM	Minimum price Maximum price Display currency
[View all]	Relevance Market
	Shipping origin Shipping destination Product class - any
	☐ Accepts BTC ☐ Accepts BCH ☐ Accepts LTC ☐ Accepts XMR
	Search the darknet markets
mlyusr6htlxsyc7t2f4z53wdxh3win7q3qpxcrbam6j	if2dmus7tn7uvd onion 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
milyusionuxsyc/t214235waxnswin/qsqpxcrbambj	(13umuar tilizuyu.omon

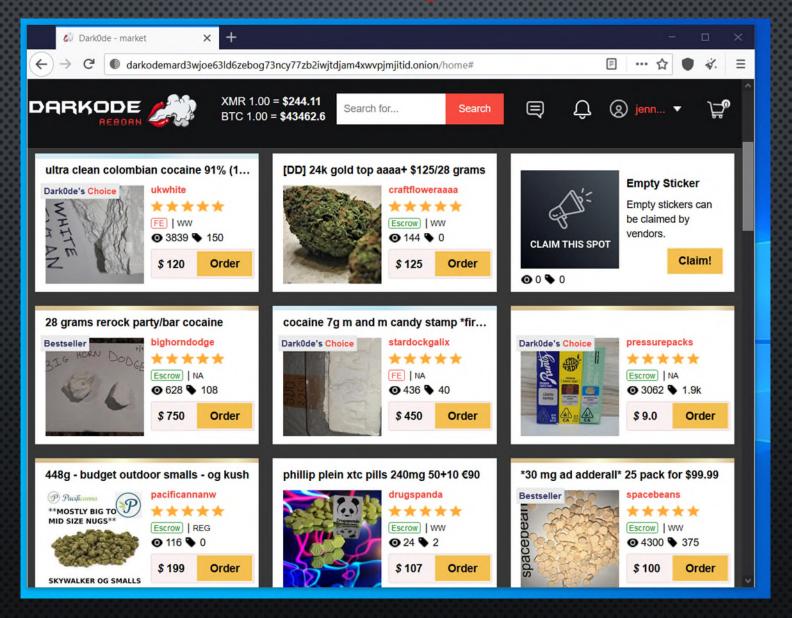
DRUGS





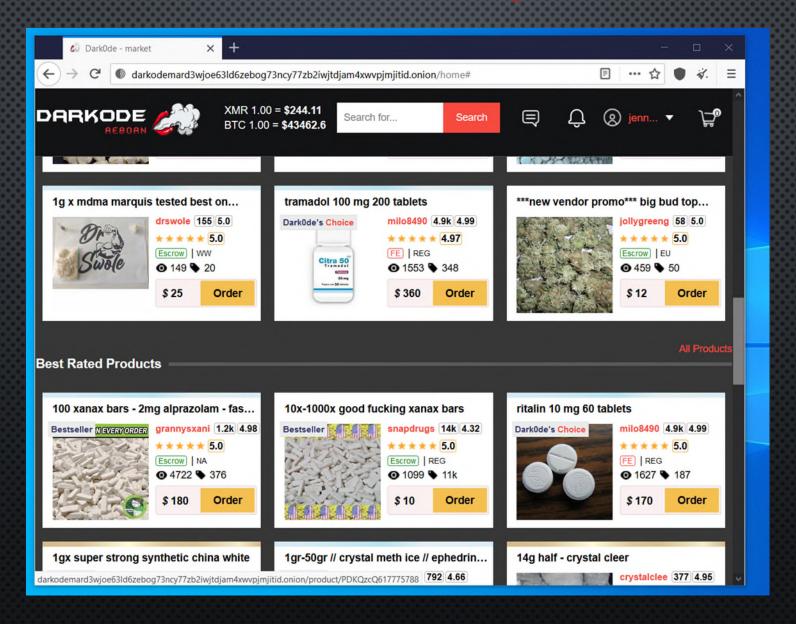
More Drugs...



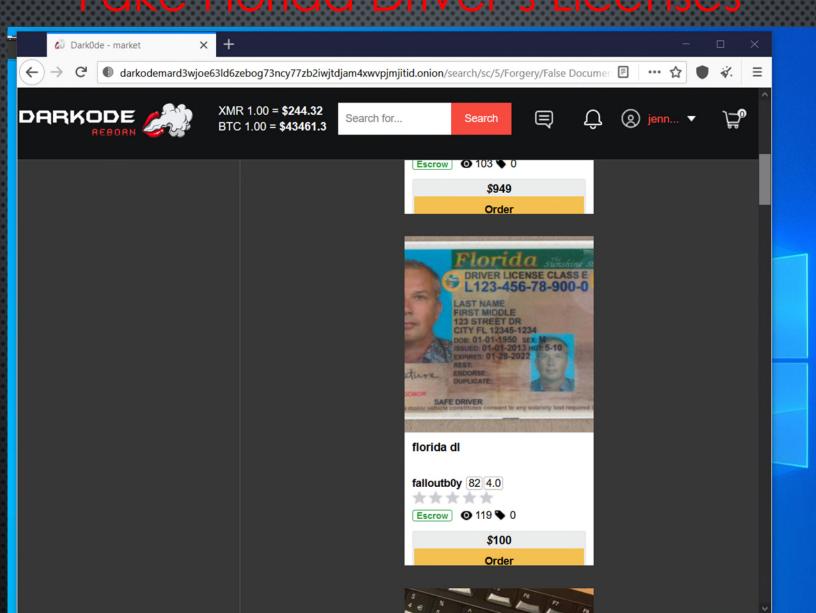


Even More Drugs...





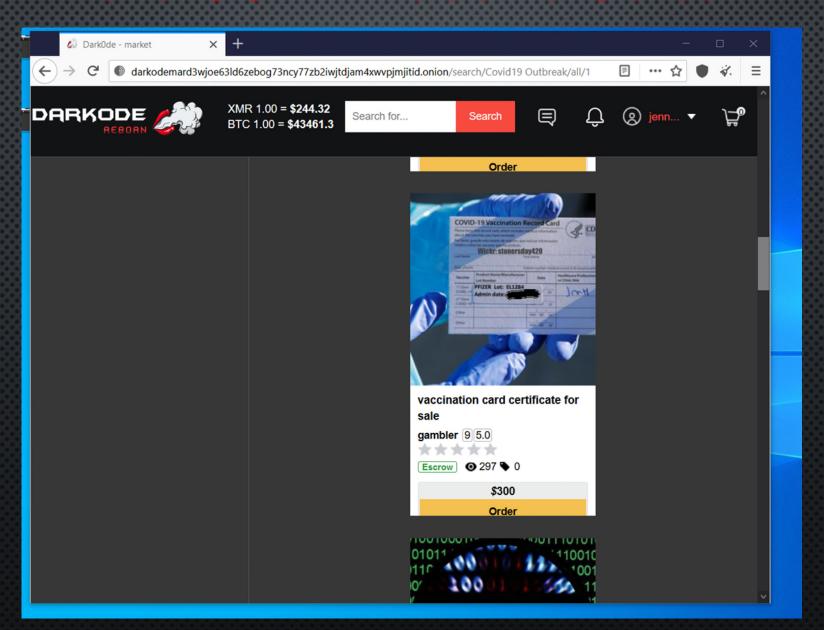
Fake Florida Driver's Licenses





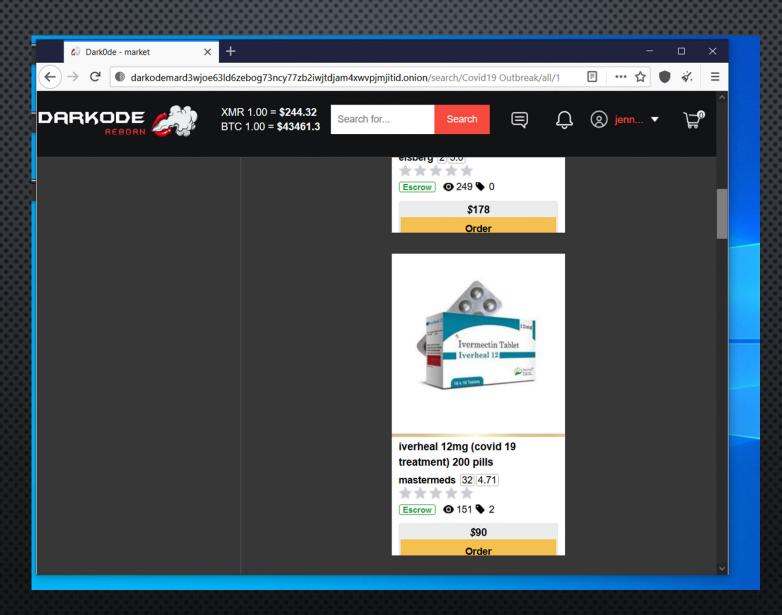
Fake COVID Vaccine Cards





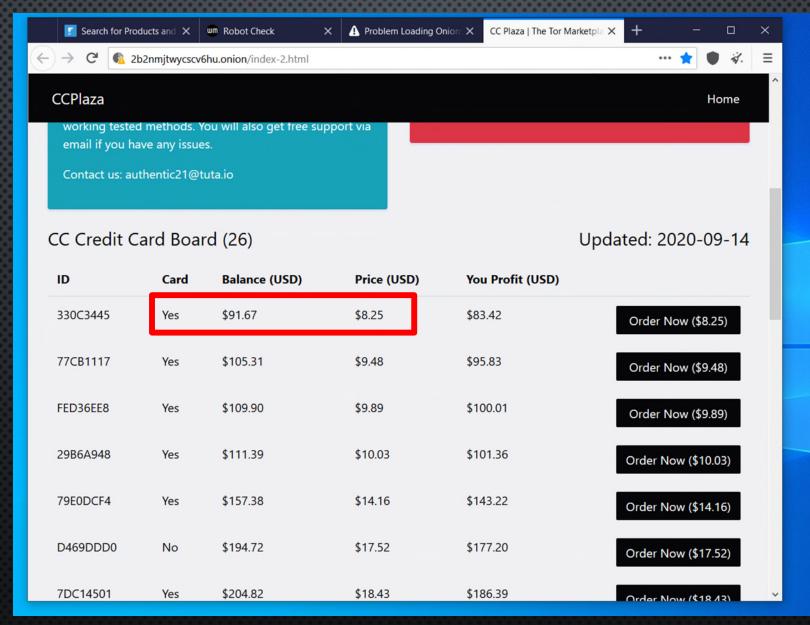
Ivermectin





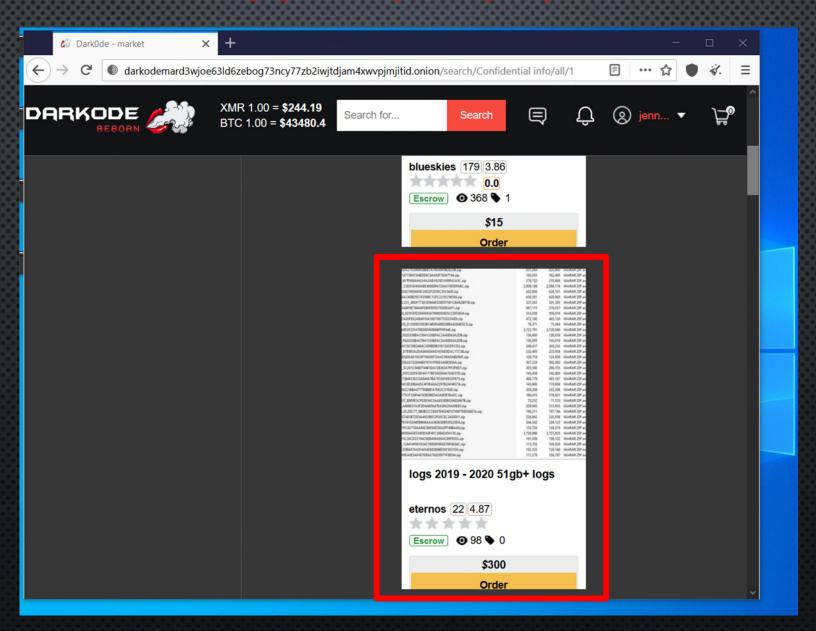
Credit, Gift, Debit Cards





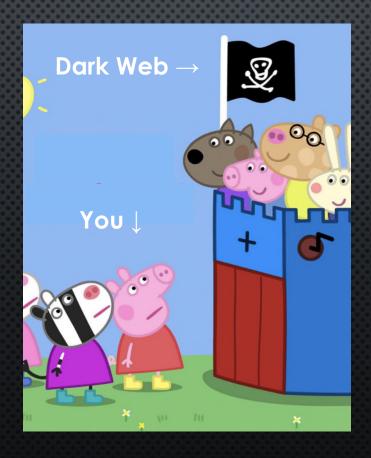
Your Information







How The Hackers Find and Fool You



Hackers Search the Dark Web For Released Databases of Hacked Emails



▲ Found 24 Text Files, 7 CSV Files, 2 Email Files, 1 Excel File

jobseeker.json.rar/jobseeker.com_2.txt [Part 864 of 1538]

PREVIEW 2021-09-09 10:25:37

{"sort": [2169279], "_type": "jobseeker", "_index": "jobseeker-20190423-1556052455200", "_score": null, "_source": {"non-us-non-canada": false, "last-active": "2016-10-05T17:31:59+0000", "telephone": "", "last-login": "2014-07-30T11:41:49+0000", "security-clearance": "None", "experience": {"past-companies": ["ByteLight", "Red Bend Software", "General Dynamics Information Technology (GDIT)", "OpenReach", "Enterasys Networks", "Indus River Networks", "Dimension Enterprises", "Phillips Business Information", "Women in Communications", "Vineyard Gazette"], "past-titles": ["Marketing and Operations Consultant", "Executive Vice President of Marketing", "Vice President of Corporate Marketing", "Director of Marketing", "Director of Product Marketing & Management", "Sr. Product Manager", "Sr. Strategic Analyst, consulting AT&T and Global One on their I", "Manager of New Media", "Product Manager of TelecomWeb", "Editor of ISDN News", "Communica

Combolist30M.txt [Part 16 of 222]

Full Data

PREVIEW 2020-12-01 03:58:43

PREVIEW 2020-11-24 14:24:39

rexmundi412@yahoo.com:poiuyt
rexuejianjian@163.com:wujian8726792
rexwolf_razvan@yahoo.com:1q2w3e4r5t
reyes.jocelyne@yahoo.com:1beauty
reyeha2@yahoo.com:10061989
reymoaquaran@yahoo.com:Flowers12
reynaldobayonon@yahoo.com:123456
reyna509@yahoo.com:Theanswer1

Full Data

Bitly.com DataBase.7z/Bitly.com DataBase.txt [Part 21 of 149]

carolinelabrie:caroline@carolabrie.com:bcrypt\$2a\$12\$mn5HZtecVpptcb7GzJKoAu8QZzSdSuuOG4LifSEPtBruu9kNNveXW\$2014-01-06

carolinelaine:carrye58@hotmail.com:02988cb139bdccb97fa0e18ead002dea

carolinelambie:caroline lambie@yahoo.co.uk:6cf60b614a06f7e4124696003f1e2b1d

carolinelange:cla@seas-nve.dk:2d4d5d09f2e6390f9303379a17b714d4

carolinelangley:carolinelangleyrichardson@gmail.com:bd18f9e4f82097fe486806ce0a74a7ad

carolinelarnach:carolinelarnach@hotmail.com:8eb40c167ddb91a5bd870842cf2e5e3c

carolinelau:caroli.lau@gmail.com:5c16d2ed0135f6252ee10c542b07029f

carolinelawrence:flaviagemina@hotmail.com:bcrypt\$2a\$12\$KuX1J3EjnVxqbwPZO.e610zXmkaL5w8Pu/M.QtoJ7qCrS.EL8D2ZS\$2014-01-06

Разбитая база 2018.18.07_15-23-32/35.txt [Part 32 of 40]

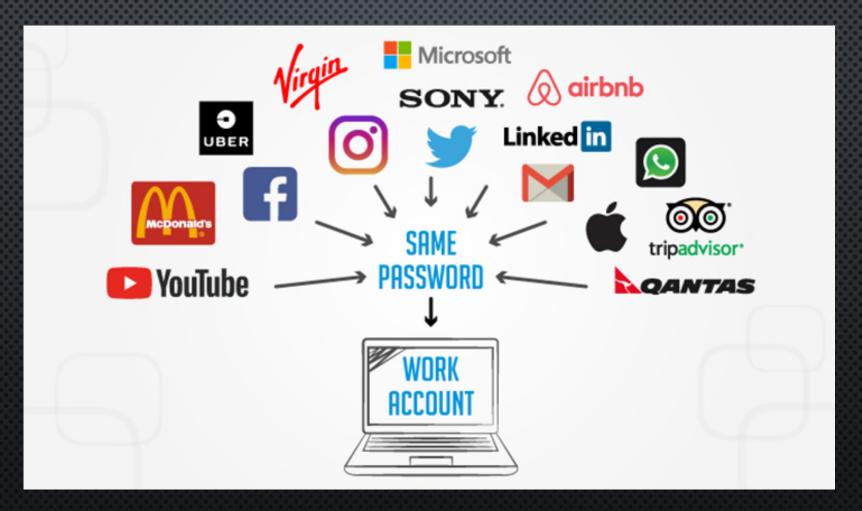
Full Data

PREVIEW 2020-03-17 19:48:45

sjcj_92@hotmail.com:sandro1992
zivkovicpg@gmail.com:drac55
ryanluna48@yahoo.com:tuffguy123



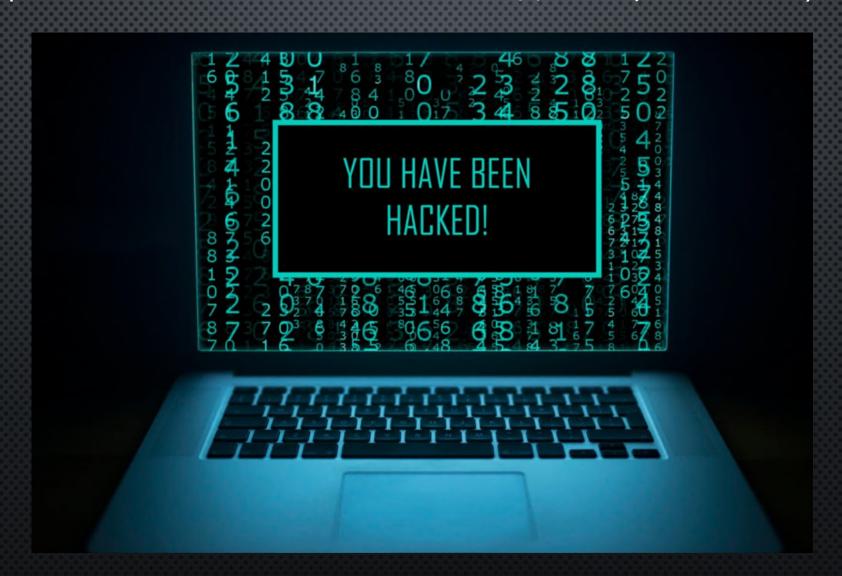




Now Hackers Are in Your System

MH

(think: ransomware, stolen data, \$\$, fool your clients)





McDonald Hopkins

Attorney Insight. Business Foresight:

CAREERS

ABOUT

NSIGHTS

EVENT

TEAN

EXPERTISE

CONTACT

♥ OFFICES



NEWS

McDonald Hopkins announces expansion into Baltimore with additions of Pollock and Campbell to national Data Privacy and Cybersecurity team

Learn More

Thursday, April 14, 2022



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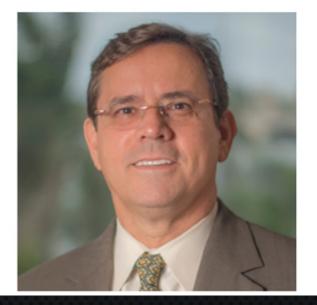
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John T. Metzger

West Palm Beach
West Palm Beach
P: 561.659.1799



John is the Managing Member of the firm's West Palm Beach, Florida office, a member of the firm's Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and a member of the firm's national real estate practice. John has over 30 years of experience assisting clients in complex real estate transactions and business litigation matters, and focuses on providing strategic advice and practical solutions to best meet his client's business needs in a cost effective manner. His clients include developers, lenders, contractors, title insurance companies, real estate professionals, property owners



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Christopher B. Hopkins

Member West Palm Beach P: 561.847.2346



Christopher B. Hopkins is a member of McDonald Hopkins LLC, a business advisory and advocacy law firm.

He has more than 20 years of trial and appellate experience representing businesses and families in the areas of commercial, ethics, fraud investigation, legal/medical malpractice, and probate litigation.

In addition to his work in the courtroom, Christopher's practice involves a wide range of emerging

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Phonebook lists all domains, email addresses, or URLs for the given input domain. Wildcards such as *.gov.uk are allowed. You are searching 34 billion records.

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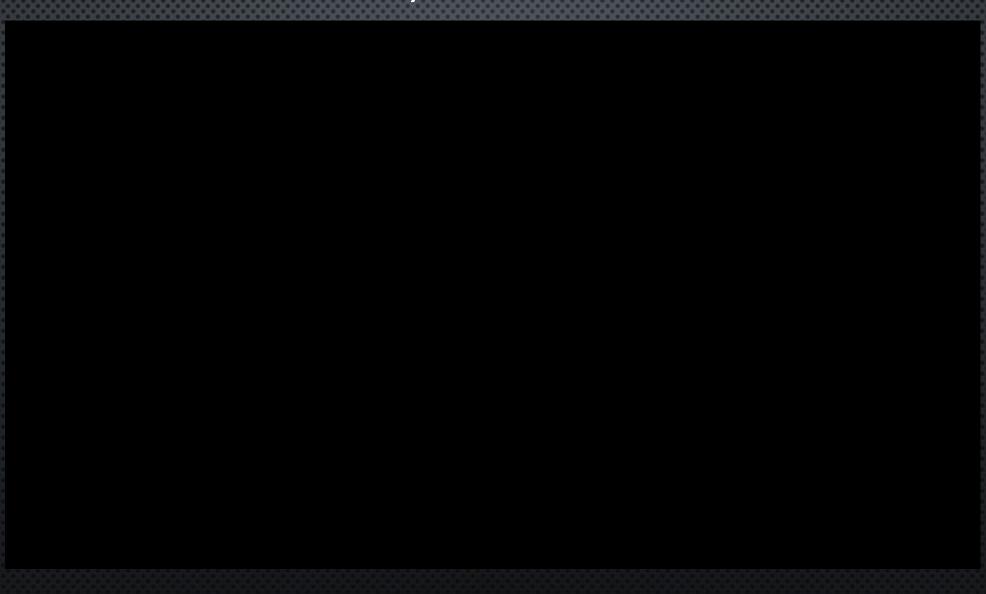
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Let's Gather Everyone's Email Addresses





Send the Phishing Email... See who bites!





From: John T. Metzger >

To: Christopher Hopkins >

Today at 12:08

[External] Christopher B. Hopkins

Do you have a moment I have a request I need you to handle discreetly. I am going into a meeting now, no calls so just reply to my email.

John T. Metzger Managing Member sent from my mail

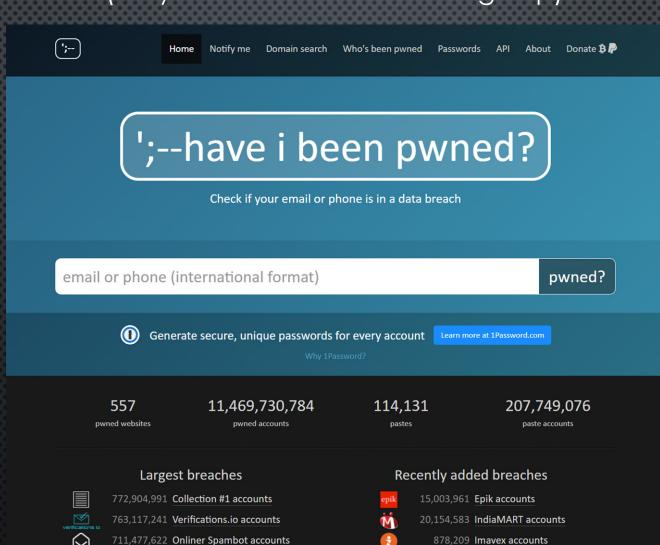


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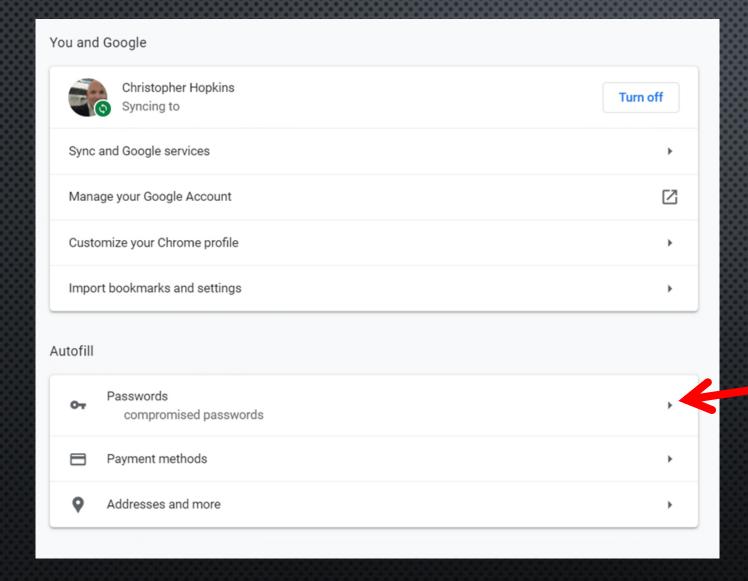
(maybe dumb name... but sign up)





Gmail Searches for Your Hacked Accts





Using Chrome, log into your Gmail account

Hit "..." in upper right

Go to Settings

Train (and Warn) Your Employees



17. Mandatory Avoidance of Email, Business Compromise, and Other Scams. I am aware that it is my duty, during my employment for to avoid email, business compromise scams, and other scams or tricks, including but not limited to internet hacks, viruses, malware, and phishing scams. Within the scope of my employment, I will carefully read and consider emails, attachments, documents, and hyperlinks before opening, clicking, and engaging. If I have questions, I am to ask first. If I suspect there is or was any sort of intrusion or risk of intrusion, I am to immediately report it to I acknowledge and agree that opening, clicking, and engaging with fraudulent emails, attachments, documents, and hyperlinks (or failing to report the same) can be cause for termination.

Send Your Own"Fake" Emails... See who bites!





From: John T. Metzger >

To: Christopher Hopkins >

Today at 07:07

Good morning,

When will you be in?
I have a request I need you to work on.

Thanks.

Tell Clients in Your Engagement Letter



Electronic Communications & Storage: Like most businesses, the Firm communicates with the Client primarily via unencrypted e-mail, phone, and, secondarily, by U.S. Mail or overnight service. We also use IM/text, internet portal, FTP, WiFi, WeTransfer, Zoom, video conferencing, cloud storage, and other physical and/or Internet-based third party vendors and services for communications and storage (unless you request otherwise). Client agrees and accepts that there is always some risk of disclosure, hacking, intrusion, and loss of attorney-client privilege when using these forms of communication and storage because of issues inherent to the internet communications, storage, and third party vendors; no guarantee can be made regarding the interception of data sent or stored on the internet or with third parties. The Client agrees that, in advance, the Client will advise the Firm in writing if the nature of any communication or storage require a higher degree of security.

Tell Clients in Your Engagement Letter



Wire Transfer – Verbal Confirmation Required: During the period in which the Firm provides legal services, the Client may wish, or possibly be required, to make electronic or wire payment to the Firm or third parties. Client acknowledges the risk of identity theft, impersonation, email compromise, phishing, and other scams. Relative to payments relating to this matter, Client confirms it has sole responsibility to obtain verbal verification from Mr. Hopkins before making any electronic or wire payments to the Firm or third parties.

Stay Safe #1



 <u>Unsecured WiFi</u> (while traveling) – hackers can access all your transmitted info <u>SOLUTION: VPN (free to employees?)</u>

 <u>Phishing/BEC</u> (easier when we're remote) – hackers fool people into giving out info *SOLUTION*: train employees to spot fakes

test them

attorneys... don't answer "cold" emails

don't go to bad sites

anti-malware

Stay Safe #2



• **<u>Data Breaches</u>** (not your fault) – until you or your employees re-use passwords

SOLUTION: don't re-use passwords

training

MFA

sign up for HIBP (all employees)

password managers e-retention policies

Data Breaches (your system)

SOLUTION: MFA

Anti-malware

Backups

IT to limit incoming IP addresses (monitor traffic)

Don't give admin level access

E-retention policies

Routine searches for your info on dark web



Further Reading

InternetLawCommentary.com

TECHNOLOGY Corner





Is Your PC Keeping Your Information Private? Take This 10-Question Quiz

CHRISTOPHER B. HOPKINS

What entity was the victim of the largest data breach in history? According to The Guardian, the "biggest [hack] in history" involved 11.5 million documents known as the Panama Papers stolen from... a law firm. "BigLaw" firms are not alone - small firms and solo lawyers frequently suffer ransomware attacks while, according to Verizon, in-house lawyers are, "far more likely to actually open a [phishing] email than all other [corporate] departments." Lawyers are particularly susceptible targets for data breach because we often hold clients' confidential and financial information. Worse, we can be a weak link: lawyers are quick to answer client inquiries and we respond quickly and at all hours from our mobile devices.

new software. Unless it is a personal computer, few users need full "admin rights." Tap the Windows key and type "control panel." Select User Accounts (twice). 5 points if "administrator" does not appear under your name. If it says "administrator," and it is not your personal PC, subtract 5 points.

4. Is Your Hard Drive Encrypted? An encrypted drive should render your drive unreadable if it is stolen. Tap the Windows key and type "control panel." Select "Security and Systems" and look for BitLocker encryption to be "on." Admittedly, there is more than one encryption method; hit the Windows key and type "PGP" to see if you find PGP Whole Disk Encryption. 5 points for encryption, no points for an

8. Can Someone Else Remotely Access my PC? Hit the Windows key and R, then type "SystemPropertiesRemote.exe." It should open a new dialog box with the title "Remote Access." If "Allow Remote Assistance" is unchecked, give yourself 5 points. If your IT department allows remote access limited to "Network Level Authentication," add no points. If remote access is allowed without restriction, subtract 5 points.

9. Do I Have Any Unknown Programs on my PC? Tap the Windows key and type "control panel." In the upper right corner, type, "program" in the search box, and select "show which programs are installed." Add 3 points if you recognize all apps; -1 for each app you cannot identify.

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McDonald Hopkins / Insights / Don't connect your phone to rental cars

BLOG POSTS

Don't connect your phone to rental cars





TECHNOLOGY CORNER



CHRISTOPHER B. HOPKINS

In March 2020, as professionals worked from home due to COVID-19, Zoom video conferences surged in popularity while, conversely, lawyers cast weary glances at the Alexa device in their home office, wondering if it was recording confidential communications.

As of this writing, rumors abound on social media about the security of both platforms. With little hard evidence, a BigLaw firm publicly broadcast its ban on these devices. While society struggles with its relationship with ubiquitous communication devices, let us at least properly configure our Zoom and Alexa privacy settings.

Zoom Video: Recommended Settings

As a brief primer, Zoom throws a few numbers at you which can be confusing. A Personal Meeting ID (PMI) is a virtual room assigned to you alone; this is visible on the URL, called a Personal Link, when you invite someone to your personal meeting room. Your Meeting ID is a temporary number for a scheduled meeting. The Meeting ID typically expires after your meeting unless you create a recurring meeting. These links and IDs may be confusing but the important point is that, without proper precautions, they can be hacked, re-used, or simply guessed by third parties.

Privacy Settings for Zoom Video and Alexa

Is This Being Recorded? - Zoom reports that all participants will see a red notification (upper left on desktop and upper right on iOS) if the meeting is being recorded.

Only the Host Has Certain Abilities - On the website, go to Settings and turn OFF "Join Before Host," "Use Personal Meeting ID," "Annotation," "Remote Control," and "Allow Removed Participants to Rejoin." Meanwhile, turn ON "Allow host to put attendees on hold" and "host only" under screen sharing.

Hypervigilance Against Zoom-Bombing-To really lockdown meetings, on the website, turn off "Join Before Host" and "File Transfer" but turn on "Require Password for... Phone" and, towards the bottom, turn on "Waiting Room." You will need to Google how to use Waiting Rooms.

The following steps will assist in protecting your privacy during a Zoom meeting:

Spacebar To Mute - press and hold spacebar to temporarily mute yourself.

Set a Virtual Background - The benefit of a virtual background is that participants cannot see the room behind you, whether that includes privileged information on a wall calendar or... a snoring pug. Select a high definition shot of the Enterprise, the Look Your Best - While not strictly a privacy issue, on the desktop app, tap the cog wheel, then video, then Touch Up My Appearance. On iOS, select "more," then Meeting Settings, and turn on Touch Up My Appearance.

Alexa: Recommended Settings

According to Amazon, "you'll always know when Alexa is recording... because a blue light indicator will appear or an audio tone will sound..." What is less clear is what third parties are doing with your data or if voice apps have the power to control the microphone.

What Has Alexa Heard? - In the Alexa app, tap the three lines in the upper left corner and then go to Settings / Alexa Privacy / Review Voice History. Scroll through (and delete) the recent commands she recorded.

Set Up Delete By Voice Command - Following those same steps, toggle on "Enable deletion by voice." Then later you can instruct Alexa "delete what I [just said][said today]."

Auto Delete Old Recordings - Follow the same instructions but choose Manage Your Alexa Data and set auto delete to either after 3 or 18 months.

Turn Off "Use Voice Recordings to Improve Amazon Services" - Again, using the same



<u>Article</u>

TECHNOLOGY CORNER





Protect The Privacy of Your iOS 13 Device

CHRISTOPHER B. HOPKINS

It has been two years since we covered iPhone and iPad security in this column. The risks have only increased while several privacy settings have become more difficult to find. To echo the Fourth District's recent assessment in a real-time cell phone tracking case: "[t]his presents significant I See When You Opened My Text: Under privacy concerns." Make sure your device is running iOS 13.x (Settings / General / Software Update) and then check the following:

Apple Is Tracking You: Under Settings / Privacy/Location Services, scroll all the way down to System Services. Location-Based Apple Ads, Location-Based Suggestions, iPhone Analytics, Popular Near Me, and Routing & Traffic should be off. Turn off Significant Locations.

Google Maps Is Tracking You: Open Google Maps and select your profile in the upper

prevent this intrusion, go to Settings / Mail and toggle Load Remote Images to off. If an email contains an image you want to see, just click the banner at the top when you open the email.

Settings / Messages, turn off "Send Read Receipts."

I See You Are Not in Your Office: Why broadcast that you are out of the office? Turn off "sent from my iPhone" under Settings / Mail / Signatures (leave it blank). There is still another trick. When sending a reply, your email will be entitled "Re:" when you reply on a mobile device whereas it will be "RE," with a capital E, if you are logged in via computer. So an email which is entitled, "Re: [title]" is coming from a handheld device. When it matters, you can manually capitalize the letter "e" to prevent leaking

able to keylog what you type because you granted them "all access." Make sure you know which apps can read your texts under General / Keyboard / Keyboards. Delete anything which is unfamiliar.

Are Text Messages Going to Other Devices? Are iMessages being pushed to other devices on your Apple account? Maybe. To keep your chats private, make sure Settings / Messages / Send & Receive is set to your phone only and no other devices or email.

Health: Unless you intended an app to access this feature, only Health should be listed under Settings / Health / Data.

Christopher B. Hopkins handles privacy and cybersecurity matters with McDonald Hopkins LLC (chopkins@mcdonaldhopkins.com).

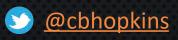
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