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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

March 12, 2010

Investigation Underway Following Cyber Attack

Attack Struck One Metropolitan Police Department Computer, No Fraud Reported Thus Far

An investigation is underway following a cyber attack on a computer at the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis ("the department"). The attack, launched via email, appears to have targeted multiple department computer users but ultimately impacted just one computer. Some personal information of citizens involved in criminal incidents was stored on the computer and after extensive examination by department police officers trained in cybercrimes, it was determined that 24 people may have had their personal information compromised. Those people have been identified and will be contacted so they can take appropriate steps to prevent fraudulent activity. The department is also purchasing each of the 24 people, if interested, one year of credit protection services from Experian at a cost of \$119.40 per person--a total cost of \$2865.60.

The department learned of the attack this week although it is believed the attack actually occurred between February 4, 2010 and February 5, 2010. Though there is an ongoing investigation that precludes the department from releasing detailed information regarding how this attack occurred, the department can confirm that the attack was initiated via email. The department's cybercrimes officers spent several days examining the affected computer and have determined that 24 people may have had their personal information, including name, address and social security number, compromised. The personal information of 22 of the people was in the affected department's computer because they were victims, witnesses or property owners in criminal incidents. The other 2 were suspects in criminal incidents. All 24 people were involved in incidents in 2002, 2003 or 2005.

Though the department is unaware of any fraudulent activity that may have occurred as a result of this incident, investigators are actively working to locate the 24 people whose information may have been compromised. In addition to receiving credit monitoring services, they will also receive a letter advising them of additional measures they can take to protect their credit.

The cyber attack may also have impacted personal information of some department employees including names and phone numbers, though employee social security numbers were not compromised. The cyber attack did not affect the department's police report-writing program, financial programs or the program that stores mug shots and criminal records. The department is evaluating internal systems to determine if additional measures can be taken to prevent such an attack in the future.

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