

Data Security Breaches: Social-Media Leakage



THESE MATERIALS ARE MEANT TO ASSIST IN A GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT LAW AND PRACTICES.

THEY ARE NOT TO BE REGARDED AS LEGAL ADVICE.

THOSE WITH PARTICULAR QUESTIONS SHOULD SEEK ADVICE OF COUNSEL.

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Compliance's Three E's (c't'd)



- Train on rules of behavior for access, nondisclosure and safeguarding
- Review pertinent segments of certain Employee Handbook policies, e.g.
 - Code of Conduct
 - Confidentiality Policy
 - Technology-Acceptable-Use-Policy (TAUP)/No-Employee-Expectation-of-Privacy Policy (NoEEP)
 - Separating Employee Policy (& related checklists from IT Dep't, HR Dep't, etc.)

Compliance's Three E's (c't'd)



- EXAMPLE = Social-Media use, addressed in:
 - TAUP segment; or
 - separate policy
- Some topics:
 - Disclosures of protected: PII; or PHI
 - Sock-Puppeting (Anonymous or Pseudonymous posts)

Social-Media – Ex. 1: Photo/Video Tags



TAG You're it



- See ARMA, <u>EU Investigates Facebook, Google Tagging</u>, Info. Mgmt. (7/1/10)
- See also Stephanie Bodoni, <u>Facebook to Be Probed in EU for Facial</u> <u>Recognition in Photos</u> (Bloomberg BusinessWeek 6/8/11); Kevin J. O'Brien, ⁴ <u>Germany Investigating Facebook Tagging Feature</u>, N.Y. Times (8/3/11)

Social-Media Privacy? Photo/Video Tags (c't'd)



Recent developments:

- Facebook settings have changed
 - Facebook, <u>Making It Easier to Share With</u>
 <u>Who[m] You Want</u> (8/23/11)
- EU countries' probes of tagging and facial recognition
- But, in U.S., one court in a divorce/custody case – OK'd tags
 - <u>Lalonde v. Lalonde</u>, No. 2009-CA-002279-MR (Ky. Ct. App. 2/25/11)

Social-Media – Ex. 2: PII Breach



Battle Creek, Mich. Mayor:

- In June 2009, he tweeted a link to a City check-registry posted on web
- That public document contained PII on 65 city employees, including Social Security No. for 6 of them
- His explanation: An employee had mistakenly given him the wrong item
- Taken down quickly (within a day)
- But affected employees offered free identity protection for 1 year

See article linked here

Social-Media – Ex. 3: PHI Breach



HIPAA concerns in Virginia
 Henschel, Facebook Terminations:
 Friends Don't Let Friends Talk
 Smack About Their Job, LexisNexis
 Applied Discovery Blog (4/12/10)

<http://Facebook-HIPAA-4-12-10.notlong.com>

Social-Media – Ex. 4: Sock-Puppeting



- "[Wild] OATS [Markets] has lost their way and no longer has a sense of mission or even a well-thought-out theory of the business. They lack a viable business model"
- "Perhaps the OATS Board will wake up and dump [C.E.O. Perry] Odak and bring in a visionary and highly competent C.E.O."
- "I like [OATS rival Whole Foods Markets Chair and C.E.O. John P.] Mackey's haircut. I think he looks cute!"
 - Some of 7 years of postings by Whole Foods co-founder Mackey himself on Yahoo Finance's bulletin board

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Three E's – Example (c't'd)



Anonymous or Pseudonymous Posts

PG&E SmartMeter Exec. Resigns (11/11/10)
 http://articles.sfgate.com/2010-11-11/business/24826008_1_smartmeter-program-discussion-group-resignation>

May Violate:

- Federal Antitrust Laws
- Federal Securities Laws
- Federal Trade Commission online-advertising guidelines as to Endorsements & Testimonials
 - FTC Pursues Online Endorsements by Undisclosed Insiders, Fenwick & West Litigation Alert (9/2/10)

<www.fenwick.com/docstore/Publications/Litigation/Litigation Alert 09-02-10.pdf>

Compare FDA issue

articles' links available on request

Conclusion/ Questions



Let's be careful out there . . .



- Q+A:
 - Robert D. Brownstone

< www.fenwick.com/attorneys/4.2.1.asp?aid=544> (including extensive bibliography)



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