

# Anatomy and Pathology of a Data Breach



March 27, 2012 | Washington, D.C.

## PRESENTERS:

Alan S. Goldberg, Esq., Sharon D. Nelson, Esq. John  
W. Simek

# HIPAA SUMMIT

# ***HIPAA Is About Standards***



# ***Two Elements = Compound***



# ***Data Breach Challenges***

***HIPAA  
HITECH***

***State Laws***

***Contracts***

***Be Careful Out There!***

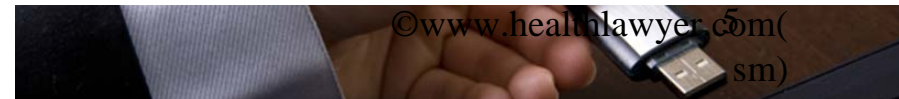


**SENSEI ENTERPRISES, INC.**

COMPUTER FORENSICS | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | INFORMATION SECURITY

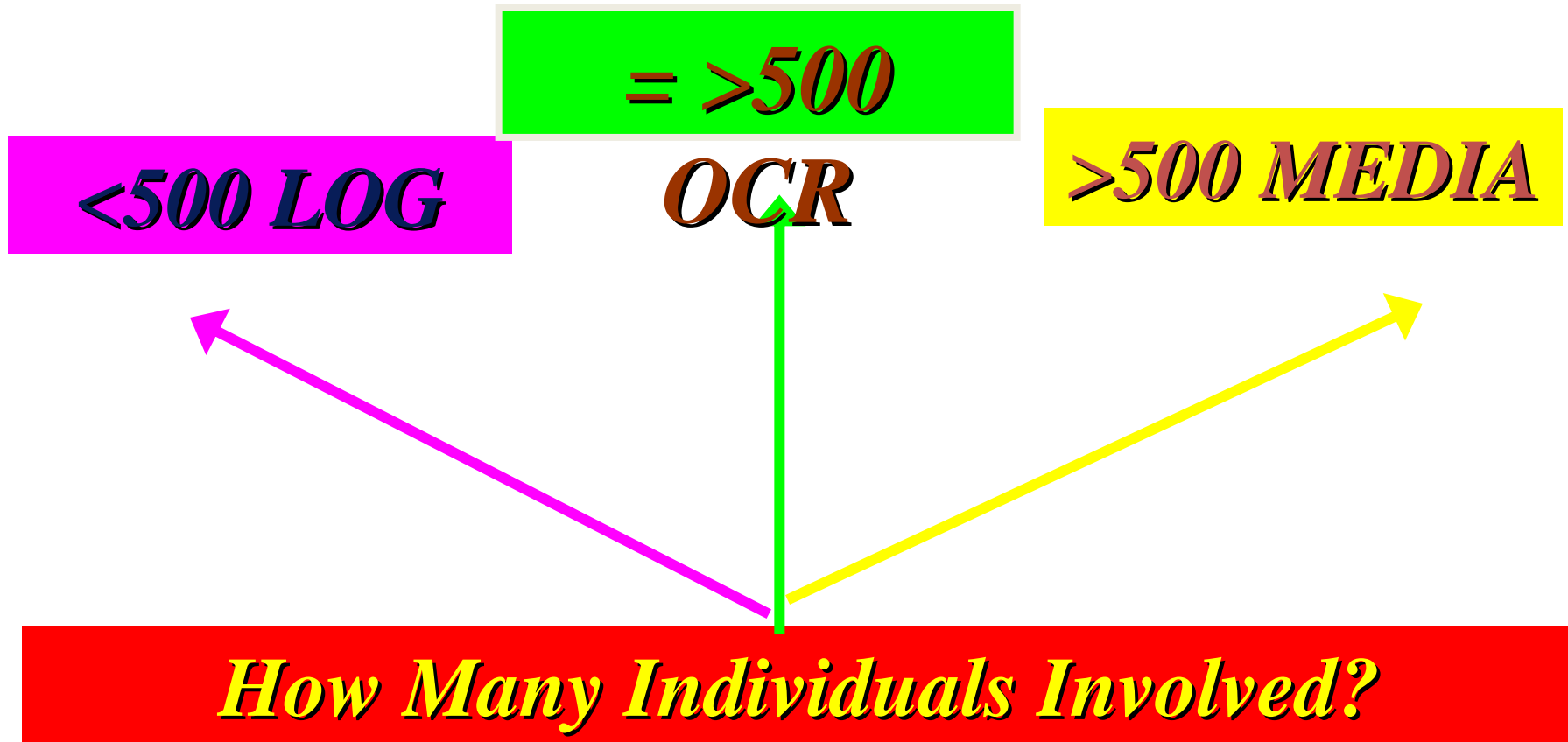


LITIGATION HOLD  
LITIGATION HOLD  
LITIGATION HOLD  
LITIGATION HOLD  
LITIGATION HOLD





# *It's All In the Numbers*



# ***Legal Challenges***

***Federal Law***

***Tort &  
Contract Law***

***State Law***

***Consequences of Data Breach***





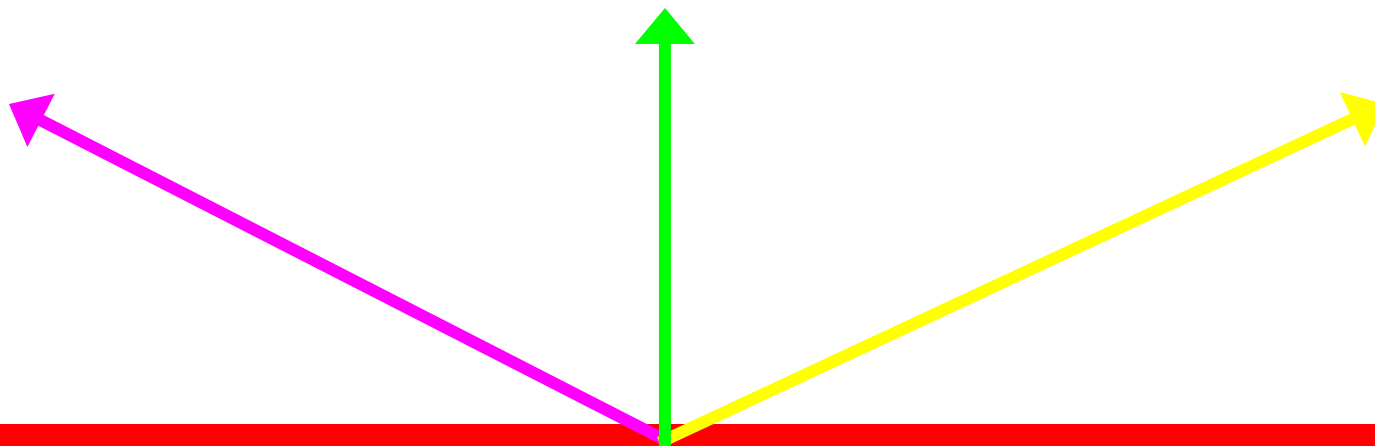
# ***Encryption***

***Security Rule***

***Not Optional***

***Addressable***

***Unsecured Protected Health Information***



# ***How Government Prosecutors See Data Breach Abusers***



*Why is this man smiling?*

*Practice Safe Computing!*

*[www.healthlawyer.com](http://www.healthlawyer.com)*



# You've been breached – now what?

- ❖ Implement your Incident Response Plan
- ❖ Call your lawyer
- ❖ Get your information security experts in ASAP with your lawyer
- ❖ Be forewarned: The first hour with your experts has been called The Upchuck Hour

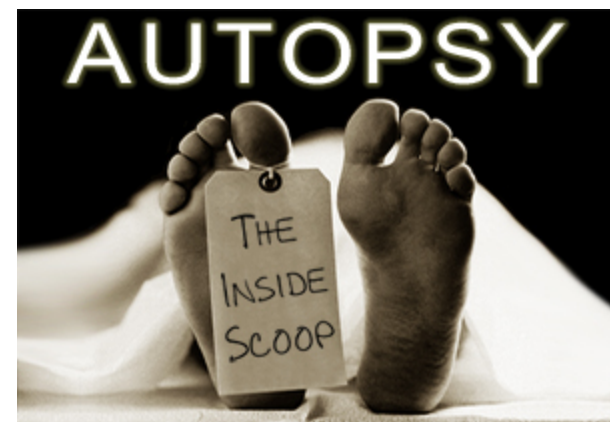


# Don't assume it is kids – or that it will go away



# The First Steps in Investigating a Breach

- ❖ It is a little like an autopsy
- ❖ You've got a dead body (or a breach) – you must figure out what happened
- ❖ What data are they accessing? (a clue to motive)
- ❖ What credentials do they have?
- ❖ Where are they? (IP addresses)



# The First Steps in Investigating a Breach

- ❖ Preserve the Logs
- ❖ Is it an active breach?
- ❖ Identify compromised components
- ❖ Identify accessed data
- ❖ Origination of attack
- ❖ Is there continued risk?
- ❖ Forensic preservation

Figure 3. China's Special Economic Zones





# Containing the Breach

- ❖ Do you want the breach to continue during the investigation? You might.
- ❖ How did they get in?
- ❖ Closing the point of entry doesn't help once they are in





# Comply with data breach notification laws



# Remediation of the problem(s) that caused the breach

- ❖ Patch
- ❖ Updates
- ❖ Access controls
- ❖ Data restoration
- ❖ Possible equipment replacement
- ❖ Additional logging and alerts



# Full blown security assessment post-breach



- ❖ Penetration testing
- ❖ Policy & procedure review
- ❖ Vulnerability assessment
- ❖ Inventory
- ❖ Access controls
- ❖ Physical security



# An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure

- ❖ FAR cheaper than a breach
- ❖ Get an independent third party audit (both of your network(s) and policies)
- ❖ Should be done at least annually, perhaps twice a year
- ❖ Policies should be reviewed annually



# Security assessments – never by your IT department or IT provider

Number of Systems	Flat Fee Cost
Up to 4 Devices	\$2,000.00
5 to 25 Devices	\$3,500.00
26 to 50 Devices	\$7,000.00
51 to 75 Devices	\$10,500.00
76 to 100 Devices	\$14,000.00
Over 100 Devices	Call For Pricing



# How breaches have happened and lessons learned

**HACKED**



# Two recent attempted hacks into Sensei

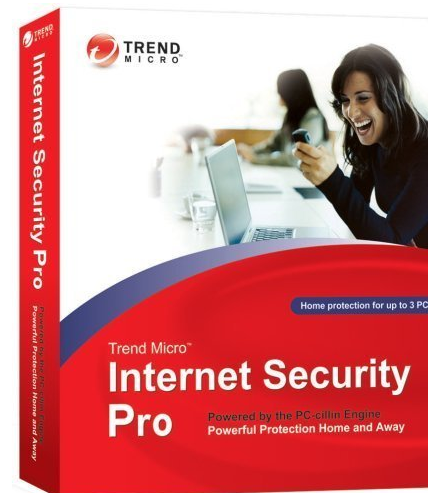


- ❖ Hundreds of brute force attacks in short span of time
- ❖ One from colo in Reston
- ❖ One from China
- ❖ Operated as a denial of service attack, bogging the network down
- ❖ Blocked those IP addresses
- ❖ Attempted to exploit default IDs – and in one attack, it was targeted – they knew our names



# Small business office

- ❖ Did not have up-to-date enterprise security suite
- ❖ Breach had been operative for months
- ❖ Owner relied on outside IT consultants
- ❖ Important to ask questions and to have security audits
- ❖ IT consultant are NOT security experts!





# Hack of EPA

- ❖ By fired employee
- ❖ Destroyed a lot of files, changed passwords, etc.
- ❖ They forgot to kill his remote access



# Elliott Greenleaf & Siedzikowski



- ❖ PA firm suing William Balaban and his new firm, Stevens & Lee.
- ❖ Alleged to have taken 78,000 files
- ❖ Used Dropbox to sync the files
- ❖ First known case of Dropbox as vehicle for breach



# Puckett and Faraj- 2012

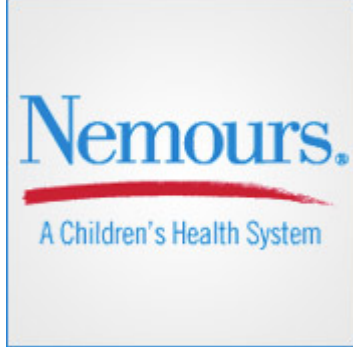
- ❖ Website hacked by Anonymous
- ❖ 3 GB of e-mail taken and released
- ❖ Defended Marine guilty of killing 24 Iraqis
- ❖ E-mails included details from sexual assault victims
- ❖ Also, e-mail of former partner (defended Guantanamo detainees)
- ❖ E-mail hosted by website provider
- ❖ Another possible vulnerability



# Law firm espionage

- ❖ West Virginia attorney figured out how another firms attorneys accessed their e-mail (first initial, last name)
- ❖ Began spying on wife
- ❖ Moved to all the partners
- ❖ Make complex passwords





# Nemours - 2011

- ❖ 3 unencrypted backup tapes disappeared along with the locked cabinet they were stored in
- ❖ Will now move toward encryption and offsite secure storage of non-essential backup media
- ❖ 1.6 million affected
- ❖ Fourth largest data breach
- ❖ Encryption, encryption, encryption



# TRICARE breach

- ❖ 4.9 million military patients affected - largest reported since the **HIPAA breach notification rule**, mandated under the **HITECH Act**, took effect in September 2009
- ❖ Backup tapes stolen on Sep. 13<sup>th</sup> from car of a business associate, Science Applications International Corp.
- ❖ Some data encrypted, some not
- ❖ Radio and GPS also stolen
- ❖ Encryption, encryption, encryption



# Stanford Hospital and Clinics

- ❖ Oct. 10 2011 press report
  - Nearly 20,000 patients affected
  - Data given to subcontractor
  - Subcontractor decrypted data
  - Gave to job applicant to make bar graphs
  - She didn't know it was real and posted it online ([studentoffortune.com](http://studentoffortune.com)) seeking help
- ❖ Lessons
  - Share data only when needed – access control
  - Scrutinize partners' security policies and practices





# Questions?

