

From: Taillon, Jeff

To: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>

Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>

Hall, Taylor <TaylorHall@gov.sc.gov>

churchl@email.sc.edu <churchl@email.sc.edu>

Stirling, Bryan <BryanStirling@gov.sc.gov>

Haltiwanger, Katherine <KatherineHaltiwanger@gov.sc.gov>

LeMoine, Leigh <LeighLeMoine@gov.sc.gov>

Walls, Courtney <CourtneyWalls@gov.sc.gov>

Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>

Pitts, Ted <TedPitts@gov.sc.gov>

Baker, Josh <JoshBaker@gov.sc.gov>

Bondurant, Kate <KateBondurant@gov.sc.gov>

Walker, Madison <MadisonWalker@gov.sc.gov>

Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>

Patel, Swati <SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov>

Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 11/15/2012 10:55:45 AM

Subject: WSPA: Haley announces SC computer security upgrades (Video)

WSPA: Haley announces SC computer security upgrades (Video)

<http://www2.wbtw.com/news/2012/nov/14/haley-announces-sc-computer-security-upgrades-ar-4971254/>

By: Robert Kittle

COLUMBIA, SC -- Gov. Nikki Haley announced Wednesday afternoon that she's signed an executive order requiring her cabinet agencies to use a computer network monitoring service provided by the Division of State Information Technology, or DSIT. The move comes in response to a security breach at the state Department of Revenue, when a hacker was able to steal the personal information of 3.8 million taxpayers and more than 650,000 businesses.

"We are going to have 24/7 monitoring by a person, which will basically allow the agencies that aren't involved with DSIT to have someone on standby 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, that if they see any suspicious activity, if they see anything that is wrong, that they are able to move in immediately and do something about it," she says.

She also announced that the state bought a piece of equipment that should help prevent a hacker from downloading files. "The second that any of my cabinet agencies see that files are being moved that should not be moved, it immediately shuts the computer down. It immediately stops it before it can happen," she says.

That piece of equipment cost about \$160,000 and was paid for with a federal Homeland Security grant. The 24/7 computer network monitoring will require DSIT to hire four new full-time employees. The cost for them will be split between agencies.

DSIT director Jimmy Earley says, "We'll also be able to, again, as the governor said, be able to intercede in real time and be able to prevent either software from being downloaded to a PC, that's symptomatic of a virus or malware being downloaded, or prevent data from leaving the network. We can actually block that in real time."

He and the governor say there's no way to know whether having the monitoring and new equipment would

have prevented the breach at the Department of Revenue, but having them will certainly increase the security of your personal information that's stored at various state agencies.

Earley says, "It is important to point out that there is no silver bullet for cyber security, and the monitoring service, in and of itself, is not a comprehensive solution, but it is an important tool that we have and it allows us to do something very important, which is to watch our networks and to recognize what's going on inside of our systems."

The governor's order applies only to her cabinet agencies, but the other state agencies are being encouraged to also use the new security.

Jeff Taillon

(803) 734-5129|Direct Line

(803) 767-7653|Cell