

- Wednesday, December 18, 2013, Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) security software detected unauthorized downloads to a personal, unencrypted removable media device, containing personal identifying information. The information was downloaded from human resource files by a human resource employee, in direct violation of agency policy.
- DEW immediately notified State Law Enforcement Division (SLED).
- Thursday, December 19, 2013 SLED opened an investigation.
- DEW provided SLED the information needed to further their investigation. Over the course of the investigation DEW was able to determine that 4,658 current & former employees, dependents and beneficiaries were impacted.
- The specific types of data contained in these files consisted of human resources information which may have included names, addresses, dates of birth, and / or social security numbers. Certain files also contained payroll information, including personal financial account information, benefits and beneficiary data, and other types of sensitive data.
- During the course of the ongoing SLED investigation, SLED recovered what could be the removable media device in question.
- Wednesday, January 15, 2014 DEW began notifying impacted individuals.

Statement from DEW Executive Director Cheryl M. Stanton.

“This is exactly what should have happened. Our security measures detected these downloads and DEW promptly began a full investigation. We don’t know that the information has been further compromised, but out of an abundance of caution we are notifying those employees and individuals impacted so they can take necessary measures to protect themselves, including signing up for the state’s free credit monitoring,” said Cheryl M. Stanton, Executive Director of the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce.

“We worked with SLED for the last month to the fullest extent possible on the investigation to make sure we had the most accurate information to give employees, including reviewing each and every file to identify each individual impacted,” said Cheryl M. Stanton, Executive Director of the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce.