COT Security Alert – Potential Scams After Anthem Data Breach

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield suffered a significant data breach affecting 80 million customers on February 4, 2015. Compromised information includes data such as names with corresponding birthdays, addresses, email addresses, place of employment, income and Social Security Numbers. In addition to other concerns individuals have about this breach it is important to be aware that this information can be used to craft a convincing spear-phishing email in attempts to conduct additional malicious activities. Spear-phishing emails are emails that target recipients with highly effective social engineering strategies using information gathered beforehand. This could occur in addition to less sophisticated phishing emails sent out broadly.

The Office of the CISO has received no reports of a phishing campaign aimed at state workers at this time, but Anthem reports campaigns targeting current and former Anthem members which contain links for “credit monitoring” designed to obtain personal information. Please note that Anthem has stated that notifications regarding the recent compromise of individual accounts will be sent to customers using the U.S. Postal Service and that they will not request customer information via email or by phone. Users are advised to disregard any email or phone call purporting to be from Anthem requesting personal information regardless of how convincing it may be.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

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