



For Immediate Release
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Industry Alert: Cybersecurity & Ransomware

Tallahassee, Fla. – The Florida Office of Financial Regulation (OFR) is monitoring the impact of a recent global cybersecurity event involving ransomware that has impacted over 100,000 computers in more than 155 countries. The virus is known as “WannaCry,” “WCry,” or “Wanna Decryptor,” and has spread rapidly since May 12, but according to news reports, it may be slowing down.

Ransomware is a type of virus that infects computers, and then prevents the user from accessing the operating system or encrypts all the data stored on the computer. The user is asked to pay a fixed amount of money in order to decrypt files or access the operating system.

This particular ransomware exploits a vulnerability in Microsoft Windows. The issue primarily relates to “computer hygiene.” Computer hygiene is the practice of keeping computers up-to-date and implementing software patches. Specific information about patching for this exploit is [available here](#).

Check out the OFR’s alerts on cybersecurity:

- [Cybersecurity Tips for Small Businesses](#)
- [Cybersecurity Safety Tips](#)

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) has released two joint statements about patch management and protecting financial institutions against these types of cybersecurity threats.

- [FFIEC Joint Statement on Destructive Malware](#)
- [FFIEC Joint Statement on Cyber Attacks Involving Extortion](#)

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