

CONTACT:

Kristeen Farlow
Interim Public Information Officer
760.868.8620
kfarlow@collegeofthedesert.edu

College of the Desert Alerts those Affected by Possible Data Breach

A malware attack last summer impacted College of the Desert's online network for about two weeks. When the unauthorized access was discovered, the College immediately began working with local authorities, the FBI and third-party forensic specialists to investigate and limit the extent of the breach.

During the investigation, the College discovered that the personal data of approximately 800 individuals may have been subject to unauthorized access. While there is no evidence of attempted or actual misuse of their information, the College is proactively notifying anyone whose information was compromised and providing them with free credit monitoring services.

"College of the Desert takes very seriously the privacy of information in our care," commented Superintendent/President Martha Garcia, Ed.D. "If you receive a letter stating you were impacted and have questions, please reach out using the contact information in the letter. We also encourage you to take advantage of the free credit monitoring service that is available."

Individuals who were affected by this cyberattack will receive a formal notification letter with information on additional steps they can take to protect their personal data. A hotline has been set up to answer questions for those who may be impacted: 800.405.6108.

Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

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