Fraud Magazine published an article called “It’s not all about the Money” in which the author, Rasha Kassem, Ph.D., CFE, discusses the various motives behind cybercrimes. In this article we will highlight some of the different motives. Some motives are obvious, while other motives may surprise you. Knowing them will help you in your “work life” but also in your personal life.

(cont. on next page)
Financial Need or Gain

The article cited the Investigation report. Here, it was found that financial gain is still the top reason. In North America, most attackers were financially motivated in their search for money or easily monetized data.

Read the Summary of the Verizon Report Here

Espionage

In February 2021, the cyber security firm, Crowdstrike, listed the primary motivators for attacking academic institutions. The article listed that academic institutions are targeted for espionage by Nation-States due to the valuable intellectual property the institutions hold.

Read the Full Article from Crowdstrike here

Fun, Curiosity or the desire to beat the system

Sometimes, the motivation isn’t about greed, but simply to “see if one could.” In the case of the HBO 2017 cyberattack, the motive couldn’t be determined. The hackers obtained internal documents but did not steal any actual episodes of HBO shows; as of the time of the cited article, no episodes appeared online. Jim McGregor, Principal Analyst at Tirias Research, stated, “Hackers are often very similar to mountain climbers — they do it just because it’s there and it’s a challenge.”

Read the full article of the HBO cyberattack here

(cont. on next page)
Helping the Poor and Needy

Finally, some hackers donate money they stole to charity. In October 2020, BBC covered the case of Darkside hackers, who alleged that they extorted millions from companies and donated some of the money to charities in the form of Bitcoin (worth $10,000 each). Although the donations may seem altruistic, the article noted that the donations can be “seen as a strange and troubling development, both morally and legally.”

Reach the full article of the Darkside Hacker donations here

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Highlights From the Article…

Cybercriminals Motivations Include…

- **Financial need or gain**, like in the case of 2021 Verizon Business Data Breach.
- **Espionage**, as listed by Crowdstrike as an important reasons why cybercriminals target academic institutions.
- **Fun, curiosity, or the desire to beat the system**, such as the HBO 2017 cyberattack.
- **Charitable donations**, like in the case of the Darkside Hackers.

Where to Read More

*It’s Not All About the Money*
Rasha Kassem, PhD, CFE
*Fraud Magazine*
Summer Vacation Checklist

The summertime in higher education usually means that the workload is lighter for some staff and faculty. If you fall into this category, now is a great time to check off some Ethics AND Compliance To-Do’s. Below is a list of questions to help you make ethical decisions and stay compliant:

✓ Have you completed Chapman’s new Ethics and Compliance Training on Canvas?

✓ Do you know where to find Chapman’s Code of Ethics?

✓ Do you know where to go to report misconduct?

✓ Is your role subject to regulatory oversight? If so, do you know the requirements?

✓ Are your policies and procedures up to date with current regulations or requirements?

New Ethics and Compliance Training!

If you have been with Chapman for more than a year, then you’ve taken the Ethics Training developed by EverFi. For the 22’-23 school year, Institutional Compliance has implemented an ethics and compliance training specific to Chapman.

Ethics training provides faculty and staff the tools to make ethical decisions. In addition, there are resources provided when there are questions regarding ethical and compliance dilemmas.

At Chapman, Ethics and Compliance is mandated by the President of Chapman. To access your training, please visit canvas.chapman.edu.
Help Us Help You

Institutional Compliance is always looking for new ways to reach Chapman’s faculty and staff. The first 30 people to respond to the following questions will receive a prize pack from our new batch of swag:

1. What topics would you like to hear about in future newsletters?

2. If given the choice, would you be interested in taking a live Ethics and Compliance Training instead of the pre-recorded one? If so, would you prefer online or in-person?

Please send your responses to compliance@chapman.edu!

Got Any Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

We want to be accessible to you! If there are any questions that we can answer, or clarification we can provide, feel free to reach out to us at compliance@chapman.edu. We are happy to help and promise to get back to you promptly.