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Association of Corporate Counsel, Denver, Colorado

Crisis Management – The Right Way To Respond To Everything Going Wrong

The New York Times

April 4, 2019



Federal agents raid office of lawyer

Three weeks after cyberattack, Mat-Su Borough computers still aren't back to normal

Chandra Westergaard Rick Hosley



Panelists

- Graig Bears General Counsel, Comfort Dental
- Bill Myers Managing Director of Communications at Liberty Global
- Greg Trulove Vice President and Associate General Counsel for DaVita Inc.
- Rick Hosley Partner, Perkins Coie
- Chandra Westergaard Senior Counsel, Perkins Coie

Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late



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Incidents May Include:

- Government Investigation/Search Warrants
- Bet-the-Company Litigation
- Significant Environmental Release/Spill
- Data Breach or Cybersecurity Event
- Significant Employee Misconduct
- Weather Event Impacting Operations
- Serious Injury on the Job
- Might Include: Range of Smaller Issues & Sleepers

Rapid Reaction Matters

- Be First to Investigate Facts
 - Manage the Scene
 - Preserve Evidence/Information
- Protect Attorney-Client Privilege
- Pro-Active Notification of Authorities
- Respond Before Investigators/Law Enforcement
- Control Messaging/Information Flow
 - Avoid Misstatements
 - Protect Brand
- Protect Employees

Prepare and Anticipate

- Do you have an Incident Response Plan?
 - Does it follow best practices?
 - Does it include all types of hazards?
 - Have you practiced the plan?
 - Has the plan been audited?
 - Have you anticipated legal action?
 - Regulatory enforcement
 - Criminal Investigation
 - Private litigation



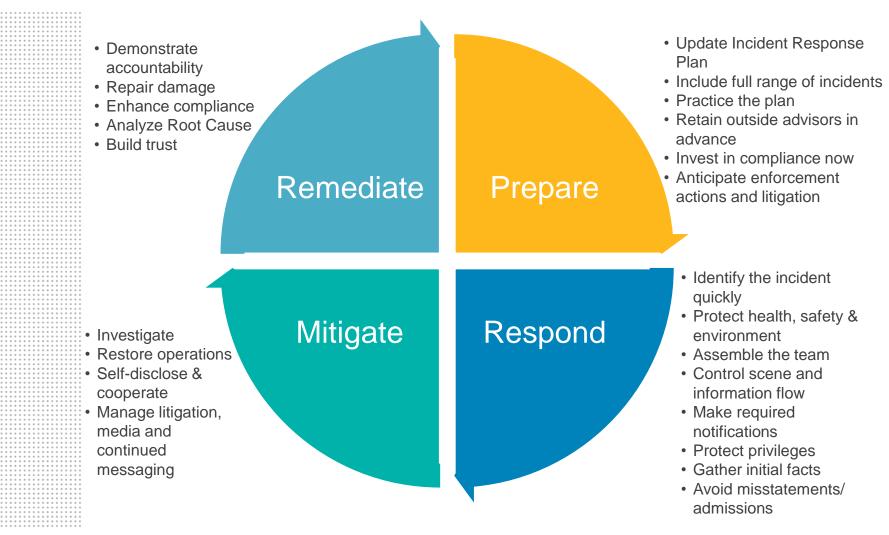
Choose Your Team Strategically

- Multiple teams depending on issue
- Combination of in-house and outside professionals (legal, forensic, PR)
- Who is likely to know and understand regulators and investigators, and the playbooks that they follow
- Need objectivity, good judgment, broad knowledge base

Take Remedial Actions

- Take Accountability
- Root Cause Analysis
- Show Investment in Improvement
 - Make appropriate structural changes
 - Enhance compliance programs
 - Rebuild trust
- Report Results of Investigation (where appropriate)
- Hold Responsible Parties Accountable and Take Appropriate Personnel Actions

Incident Response Lifecycle



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Looks Like Smooth Sailing . . .



