

# Ransomware and the Looming Class Actions that Follow

On November 9, 2021, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC brought together two privacy and cybersecurity attorneys for a legal education course, "Ransomware and the Looming Class Actions that Follow." This webinar explored the current state of ransomware, the threats it poses to various industries, including healthcare and education, and elucidated the legal landscape created by recent class actions litigation. Jacqueline M. Weyand, CIPP/US and Melissa Bayly presented the engaging webinar. For those of you that may have missed it, below are some highlights.

## Tech tips:

- Maintain offline, encrypted backups
- Conduct regular vulnerability scanning to identify and address vulnerabilities, especially those on internet-facing devices
- Implement a cybersecurity user awareness and training program
- Ensure antivirus and anti-malware software is up to date and automatic updates are on
- Consider risk management and cyber hygiene practices of third parties or managed service providers

## Litigation tips:

- Know what type of information is considered a critical data breach
- Take governmental warnings seriously
- Be proactive about monitoring for data breaches—failure to detect a breach can exacerbate the damage
- Provide precise and timely notification to impacted individuals consistent with state and federal breach notification laws
- Be aware that Plaintiff-friendly approach to standing means more class actions will be filed



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