

# ORCA TALES

June 2009

*"We can tell you more about them than their mother"*

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## 2008 Data Breach Totals Soar

IIRC Reports 47 % Increase Over 2007

San Diego, CA (January 6, 2009): Reports of data breaches increased dramatically in 2008. The Identity Theft Resource Center's 2008 breach report reached 656 reported breaches at the end of 2008, reflecting an increase of 47% over last year's total of 446.

In terms of sub-divisions by type of entity, the rankings have not changed between 2007 and 2008 within the five groups that IIRC monitors. The financial, banking and credit industries have remained the most proactive over all three years. The Government/Military category has dropped nearly 50% since 2006, moving from the highest number of breaches to the third highest. As the charge indicates, the business community still needs to enhance and enforce data security measures.

	2008 - # of breaches	2008	2007	2006
<b>Business</b>	240	36.6%	28.9%	21%
<b>Educational</b>	131	20%	24.8%	28%
<b>Government / Military</b>	110	16.8%	24.6%	30%
<b>Health / Medical</b>	97	14.8%	14.6%	13%
<b>Financial / Credit</b>	78	11.9%	7%	8%

According to IIRC reports, only 2.4% of all breaches had encryption or other strong protection methods in use. Only 8.5% of reported breaches had password protection. It is obvious that the bulk of breached data was unprotected by either encryption or even passwords.

The IIRC tracks five categories of data loss methods: data on the move, accidental exposure, insider theft, subcontractors, and hacking. Subcontractor breaches, while counted as one breach each, in some cases affected dozens of companies. It is important to note that the number of breaches reported does not reflect the number of companies affected.

For 2008	Financial	Business	Education	Gvt / Military	Medical
<b>Insider Theft</b>	2.4%	5.6%	1.8%	3.4%	2.4%
<b>Hacking</b>	3.5%	6.1%	2.7%	0.8%	0.8%
<b>Data on the Move</b>	1.7%	7.3%	3%	4.3%	4.4%
<b>Exposure Subcontractor</b>	0.8%	3.5%	1.5%	2.3%	2.3%

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## "Willy" The Stuffed Whale (A True Story!)

"So, I come home after a long day at work and walk in with the whale tucked under my arm. My little dog, who always greets me effusively when I get home, came running towards me and at the last minute, she did a 4 foot rebound jump off the back of the couch and snatched the whale out from under my arm! So I start chasing her around the house trying to get it back, when she ran in to the backyard and started trying to bury it! (I should have known, she does this whenever I try to take something from her). Finally, between me, my husband and my son, we cornered her and got it back. Then she spent hours whining at the door of the closet I hid it in.

I finally gave in and let her have it. It is her favorite toy now. She has named him Willy."

S. Meyers  
Portfolio Manager, Quantum Management Services, Inc.

## Win! Win! A large plush orca!



All you have to do is send over rental applications! When you receive a report back—**look for the whale tail!** It will be somewhere on the report. Find the whale tail and call us immediately! If you are first to call us you will be a **WINNER!** We will have one winner each week!

## What People in the Know are Saying About Orca...

"We just wanted to say how wonderful you all are. The reports are fast, the information valuable, and the people are very friendly and helpful."

Connie with Jackson Rentals

## ORCA ♦ WISDOM ♦

**Money isn't everything,  
but it sure keeps the kids in touch!**

*Continued from the front page of this newsletter...*

Sadly, these trends continue to plague companies and government alike, despite education on safer information handling, new laws and regulations. Mal-attacks, hacking and insider theft, account for 29.6% of those breaches that reported the casual factor. Insider theft, now at 15.7%, has more than doubled between 2007 and 2008. On the other hand, data on the move and accidental exposure, both human error categories, showed noteworthy improvement, but still account for 35.2% of those breaches that indicate cause.

Electronic breaches (82.3%) continue to outnumber paper breaches (17.7%). While there were 35.7 million records potential breaches according to the notification letters and information provided by breached entities, 41.9% went unreported or undisclosed making the total number of affected records an unreliable number to use for any accurate reporting.

Based on the breach reports from the past 3 years, the ITRC strongly advises all agencies and companies to:

1. Minimize personnel with access to personal identifying information.
2. Require all mobile data storage devices that contain identifying information encrypt sensitive data.
3. Limit the number of people who may take information out of the workplace, and set into policy safe procedures for storage and transport.
4. When sending data or back-up records from one location to another, encrypt all data before it leaves the sender and create secure methods for storage of the information, whether electronic or paper.
5. Properly destroy all paper documents prior to disposal. If they are in a storage unit that is relinquished, ensure that all documents are removed.
6. Verify that your server and/or any PC with sensitive information is secure at all times. In addition to physical security, you must update anti-virus, spyware and malware software at least once a week and allow your software to update as necessary in between regular maintenance dates.
7. Train employees on safe information handling until it becomes second nature.



#### About the ITRC

The Identity Theft Resource Center (ITRC) is a non-profit organization established to support victims of identity theft in resolving their cases, and to broaden public education and awareness in the understanding of identity theft. It is the on-going mission of the ITRC to assist victims, educate consumers, research identity theft and increase public and corporate awareness about this problem. Additionally, ITRC has a complete breach response program to help businesses prepare for a breach, or respond to a data exposure event.

Visit [www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org) for more information.

## FAIR HOUSING Q & A

### BY KING COUNTY OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

#### Q. What is a family with children?

A. Families with children include:

- households that have one or more children under the age of 18.
- a parent, step-parent, adoptive parent, guardian, foster parent or custodian of a minor child.
- a pregnant woman or someone in the process of acquiring legal custody of a child.

Families with children are a protected class under fair housing laws, which refer to this group as “familial status” and “parental status”. Fair housing laws make it illegal to refuse to rent or sell to a family because they have children. These laws also make it illegal to subject families with children to different terms and conditions of tenancy, harsher rules, or restrictions on the use of common areas.

#### Q. Can we discourage a family with kids from renting if our second floor apartments have unsafe balconies and no window screens?

A. No. Safety concerns are not a valid reason to deny housing to families with children. If an unsafe condition exists on the property, consider making it safe for all residents to avoid general liability for injuries. If that is not feasible, point out safety concerns to every applicant, not just families with children.

Also, HUD guidance states that it would be a violation of the Fair Housing Act for a housing provider to deny a family the opportunity to live in a dwelling that has not undergone lead hazard control.

#### Q. We've had problems with teenagers causing property damage. Can we refuse to rent to families with teens or charge them a higher damage deposit?

A. No. Familial status protections apply to all children under the age of 18. Don't single out a certain age group of children, such as teens. Under some local fair housing laws, this would be age discrimination as well. Making a generalization based on the actions of some residents (in this case teenagers) and creating a blanket rule based on that generalization will likely violate fair housing laws.

#### Q. Is it okay to refer families with kids to a building near the playground and to have another quiet building for residents without children?

A. No. This type of segregation is called “steering” and it is illegal. If a housing provider were to designate certain buildings as “non-family” housing, a family might be denied a place to live until a rental became available in the “family” building. All applicants should be shown an available rentals at the community. Let them decide where they would like to live.

If a resident asks that a nearby apartment not be rented to household with children because they might be too noisy, explain that rental decisions are not made based on protected class, such as familial status.

#### Q. We told a couple with a teenage son and daughter they must take a three-bedroom apartment, so their kids don't share the same bedroom. Is that okay?

A. No. Denying a two-bedroom rental to a family because they have children of opposite sexes, or requiring them to rent a larger apartment, is a violation of fair housing laws based on both familial status and sex.