CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Legislature Passes Privacy Law

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UF Computing & Networking Services

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Starting July 1, University of Florida students, faculty and staff will join a growing public gaining privacy rights. Florida House Bill 481 was passed by the Florida legislature this spring.

The university's IT Security Team and Privacy Office have been working diligently to prepare for the new law. UF falls under Section 817.5681, which requires organizations to notify clients within 45 days of the security breach if their personal information has been compromised. Failure to do so can result in a fine from $1000 per day to a maximum fine of $500,000.

Sensitive personal information is defined as a name in combination with a social security number, driver's license number or financial account number including access security code.

"By promoting safe computing, the UF IT Security Team hopes to minimize the number of compromised computers. Running anti-virus software offered free to all UF students, faculty and staff, updating current patches and using strong passwords are three good ways to improve IT security.” said Kathy Bergsma, UF Information Security Manager.

The UF Privacy Office maintains the privacy policy and must be notified of all UF privacy incidents. The Privacy Office manages internal communication, coordinates notifications, and handles other issues regarding privacy incidents. Notifications can be sent via the following methods: written, electronic email, conspicuous posting on a website, or statewide media.

For more information, see http://privacy.health.ufl.edu/ .

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all CNS documentation. Please send your comments to:

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