



# Current FACts

FAC News to Use

November 7, 2013

## COT Security Alert – Ransomware Threat

A variant of ransomware known as CryptoLocker surfaced in 2013 and as a result an increasing number of ransomware infections have occurred nationwide. Ransomware is an infection that encrypts the user's system or files and gives instructions, usually in a pop-up window, demanding a payment before the user will be given the key to decrypt files and recover their system. USB drives, shared network drives and other external or network devices can be affected by the infection of one computer, depending on the user's privileges.

The most popular method used to spread this infection is by phishing emails containing malicious attachments.

While COT has taken preventive measures to protect state users from falling prey to CryptoLocker, attackers will regularly change code or attack methods in efforts to avoid detection



and expand the number of potential victims. It is important that users are always aware so that changes in tactics are not successful.

Users should do the following at all times to reduce the likelihood of infection:

- Avoid clicking on links in unsolicited emails.
- Avoid opening email attachments in unexpected emails, even if the sender is known.
- If an unexpected email containing a link or attachment comes from a known sender, contact the sender to verify they intended the email to be sent.
- Save work or important files where they can and will be backed up regularly and often.
- Keep operating system, antivirus and software patches up-to-date. While this may be done by the IT department at work, home systems are susceptible and need this protection as well.

Should any state computer become infected with ransomware, do not respond to extortion attempts by making the payment requested. First action should be to disconnect the network cable or turn off wireless network connections immediately, however do not shut the device down or unplug the power cable. The Commonwealth Service Desk (CommonwealthServiceDesk@ky.gov) should then be contacted immediately to open a ticket and notify the COT Security Operations Forensics Team to investigate. Information derived from an investigation may assist in protecting state users from future attacks. Home users are advised to contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) which is a section of the FBI.

## KECC WINNERS CORNER

Thanks to everyone who helped with KECC events and donated money to this year's campaign. It is the generosity of all our FAC employees who make a difference everyday—whether through KECC or other efforts!

### WEEK 8 WINNER!!!

#### KECC PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT CHALLENGE

Natalie Gomelski, Revenue Program Officer  
Department of Revenue



**Week 8 Answer:**  
Kentucky History Center

\$10 will be donated to KECC in Natalie's name from the Secretary's Office.

## GRAND PRIZE WINNER FOR PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT CHALLENGE!!

Joel Kirby, Dept. for Facilities and Support Services is the winner of a \$100 gift card from the Secretary's Office. Pictured right is Secretary Flanery drawing Joel's name from a basket containing the names of each week's winner.



**CONGRATULATIONS Joel!**

### ... And Bingo was his name-O ...

Actually, his name is Jason Webb and he is the 2013 KECC Bingo Coverall winner of a 50-inch flat screen TV!

**CONGRATULATIONS Jason!**

Thanks to everyone who played bingo and to the Dept. of Revenue for offering the game and a great prize!

## Special Election Nov. 12

A Special Election will be held on November 12, 2013 for the following precincts in Graves County.

B102 B105 B104 B106

Only those citizens who have registered to vote and who reside in this county shall be entitled to vote in this election. [Click here](#) for more detailed information.

**You're Invited!!!**  
Let's  
celebrate!



you are cordially  
invited to the 2013  
kentucky employees  
charitable campaign

*Finale  
Celebration*

SECRETARY TIMOTHY LONGMEYER  
KENTUCKY PERSONNEL CABINET, 2013 KECC CHAIR

TRANSPORTATION CABINET AUDITORIUM  
200 MERO STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

RSVP TO DEBY.DAVIS@UWKY.ORG  
BY MONDAY, NOV. 11

**13**  
november  
**2013**  
3:00 PM  
to  
4:30 PM

Everyone is invited to  
attend the KECC  
celebration on Nov. 13.  
You need to receive  
your supervisor's ap-  
proval and RSVP.

### Please note

The KECC campaign  
officially ends Nov. 13,  
but donations and pledge  
forms will be accepted  
until Dec. 31, 2013.

If you have donations,  
pledge forms or event  
monies you need to have  
collected for inclusion in  
the Finance Cabinet final  
total, please contact Bar-  
bara Barnes at  
564-9499 or  
[barbara.barnes@ky.gov](mailto:barbara.barnes@ky.gov).

## New Employee Announcement

The School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) welcomes new executive director, Kristi Culpepper. Culpepper comes to the SFCC from the legislative branch where she was the committee staff advisor for the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee. She has a deep mechanical understanding of government finance and the municipal bond market and is regarded as an authority on capital projects and debt by the legislative body. She has worked with legislators, lobbyists, and attorneys to draft legislation and effect policy changes related to the state's bonded indebtedness.



Culpepper received her bachelor and master degrees from Baylor University. Community commitments include the Junior League of Louisville and the St. John Center for Homeless Men in Louisville. She is married and has a 2-year-old daughter.

## Online Training Courses Available Through KY Library & Archives

KDLA offers free, online training classes that are available to all state government employees. You can access the registration forms on the State Library's [training calendar](#). If you need assistance with your library account number or have a question, contact the reference desk at 502.564.8300, ext.342 or 800.928.7000, ext. 342. You can also use the [Ask a Librarian service](#). Don't be left out; sign up today.



**Focus on Time Management** presents common themes that appear throughout time management literature and will provide different ideas on how to improve efficiency through specific organizational and planning methods. **Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2 - 3 pm EST.**

**Off the Shelf: Resources for New Managers** will focus on information resources for new managers (all managers) that are available from the State Library. Resources may include audiobooks, books, e-books, DVDs and websites. **Wednesday, Nov. 20, 10 - 11 am EST.**

**Information at Your Fingertips** explains the State Library's services and resources for state government employees: Ask a Librarian reference service; how to request materials (books, audiobooks, DVDs and videos); and use of the electronic research databases. **Thursday, Nov. 21, 2-3 pm EST.**

## Thanksgiving Food Drive

First Lady Jane Beshear and Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes have joined together to ask your support for the **Thanksgiving Food Drive**.

The food drive will run from **Monday, Nov. 4** through **Friday, Nov. 22**. During this time, state employees and visitors can place non-perishable food items in bins at several locations throughout Frankfort state offices including:



Governor's Office      Secretary of State's Office  
Motor Pool      Capitol Annex      KY Transportation Cabinet  
Cabinet for Health & Family Services      Capitol Plaza Tower  
Department of Libraries & Archives      State Central Lab  
State Office Building      State Garage



New this year are drop off points at the State Motor Pool on Warsaw Street and the T-1 Garage on Barrett Ave. You can easily drop off food items when you pick up a state vehicle or have a vehicle serviced!

All donations will be equally divided between the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry, God's Pantry Food Bank, the Franklin County Women's Shelter and Access Soup Kitchen and Men's Shelter.

Thank you for your support and generosity in helping those who are less fortunate.