



New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics

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Update on Lobbying Application Outage

We have learned that the web server that houses the JCOPE Lobbying Application (“LA”) and other JCOPE systems was the target of a deliberate malicious cyberattack. The LA and the other systems were taken down earlier this week by the State Office of Information Technology Services (“ITS”) after it received an alert of suspicious activity on the server. A preliminary forensic analysis by ITS now indicates that the alert was real.

For that reason, JCOPE and ITS have decided to keep the systems, including the LA, offline until we can be assured of the integrity of the data and the systems can be brought back up safely. While the forensic analysis is ongoing, we have no indication at this time that financial information or other personal data was impacted in the attack.

JCOPE will be working with law enforcement to investigate this incident and find out who may have been responsible. We will also be working with the regulated community to keep you up to date on the status of the outage and any next steps when the system is brought back online.

Extensions will be automatically granted for any filings that were due to be submitted during the outage, and those extensions will be determined once the system has been restored. Additional guidance will be provided early next week regarding specific filing scenarios. Any other questions should be submitted by email to helpdesk@jcope.ny.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation.