

Alaska Power Association  
Alaska Electric Utility  
Accounting and Finance Workshop

# Cybersecurity Fundamentals

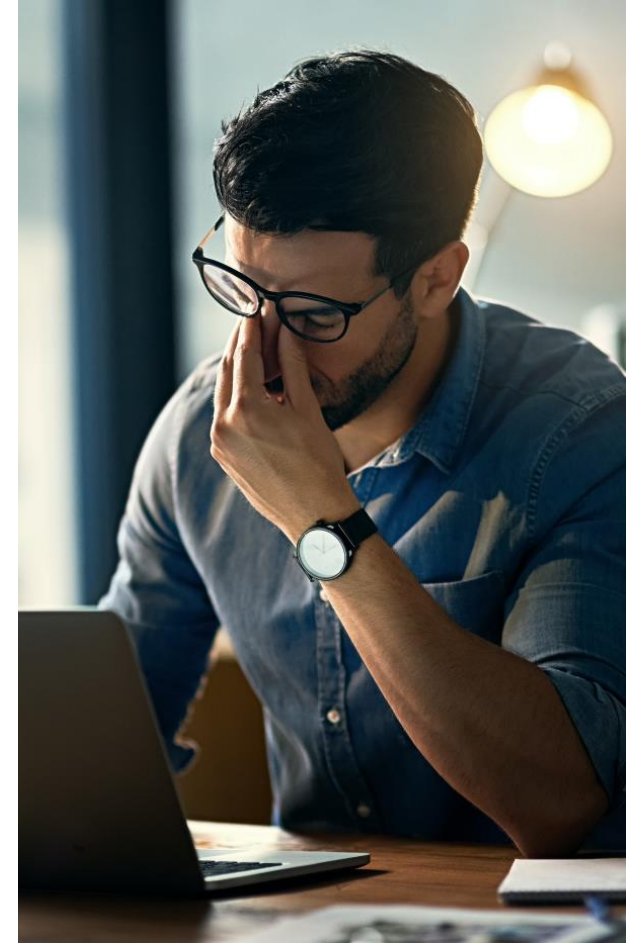
# The Struggle is Real

In 2017, the FBI received more than 300,000 complaints with reported **losses of more than \$1.4 billion dollars.**

The Mat-Su Borough in Alaska was declared a disaster zone – **\$750,000 + in losses.**

More than just money, you also lose...

- Vital Services
- Valuable records, data, and intellectual property
- Productivity
- **Trust / Reputation**





“

**I am convinced that there are only two types  
of companies: those that have been hacked  
and those that will be.”**

– Robert S. Mueller, III  
Former Director FBI  
March 1, 2012



# Why Do Cyberattacks Happen?



- Bad actors will hack your data and demand immediate **payment**
- Selling **intelligence** is a giant industry
- Some hackers simply want **bragging rights** for shutting organizations down
- People want a **competitive advantage** by stealing your data
- Disgruntled employees and other bad actors may simply want **revenge**

# Recent Attacks in Alaska

- Alaska Division of Health and Human Services – **500 personal records** (Zeus trojan)
- Fairbanks North Star Borough – **44,000 records compromised** through 3<sup>rd</sup> party billing
- City of Valdez – Police Department/City **offline for almost a week**
- Mat-Su Borough – hit by a **3-prong attack**:
  - Infected with a virus (Emotet)
  - Deployed a trojan (Bitpayment)
  - Installed malware (Dridex)



# What's the Difference?

**Virus.** A contagious piece of code that infects the other software on the host system and spreads itself once it is run. It is mostly known to spread when software is shared between computers. This acts more like a parasite.

**Trojan.** A virus designed to make a user think they are a safe program and run them. They may be programmed to steal personal and financial information.

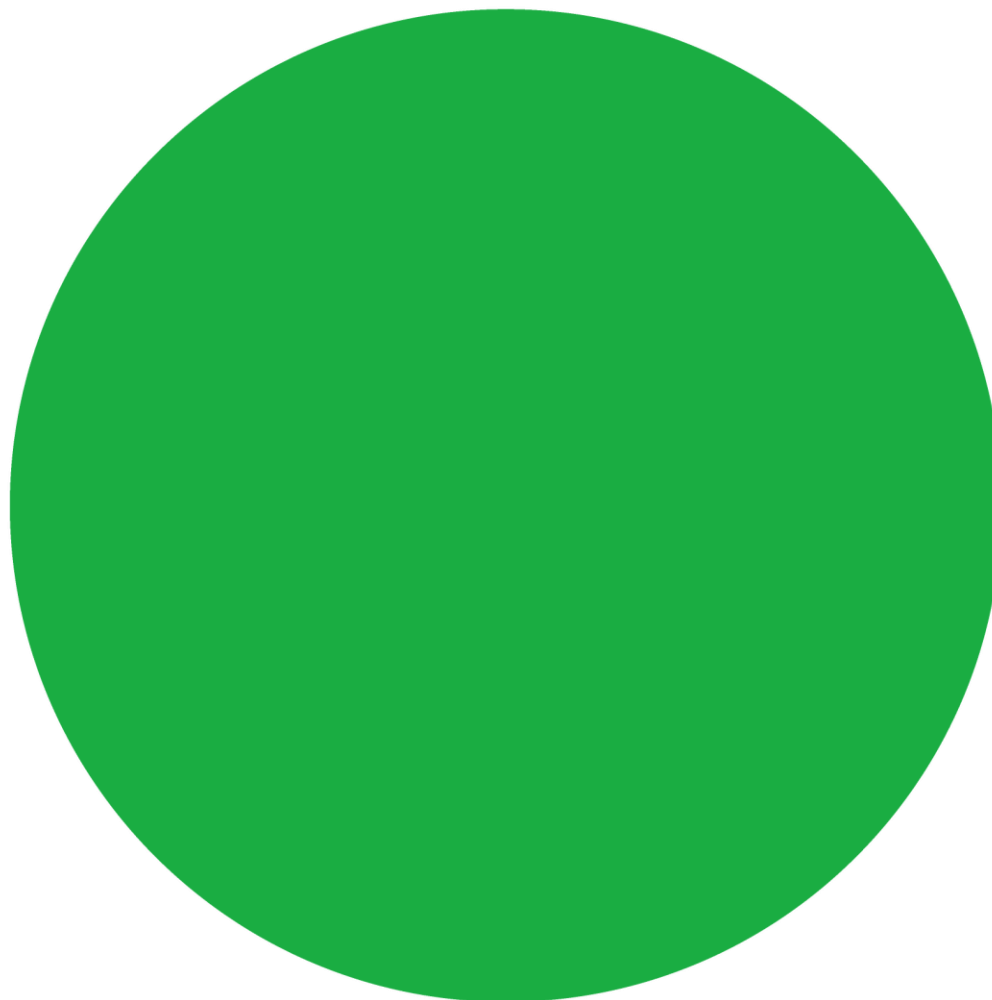
**Ransomware.** This is an advanced type of malware that restricts access to the computer system until the user pays a fee.



# 7 Layers of Protection

## 1. Backup

- Endpoint
- Servers
- Cloud



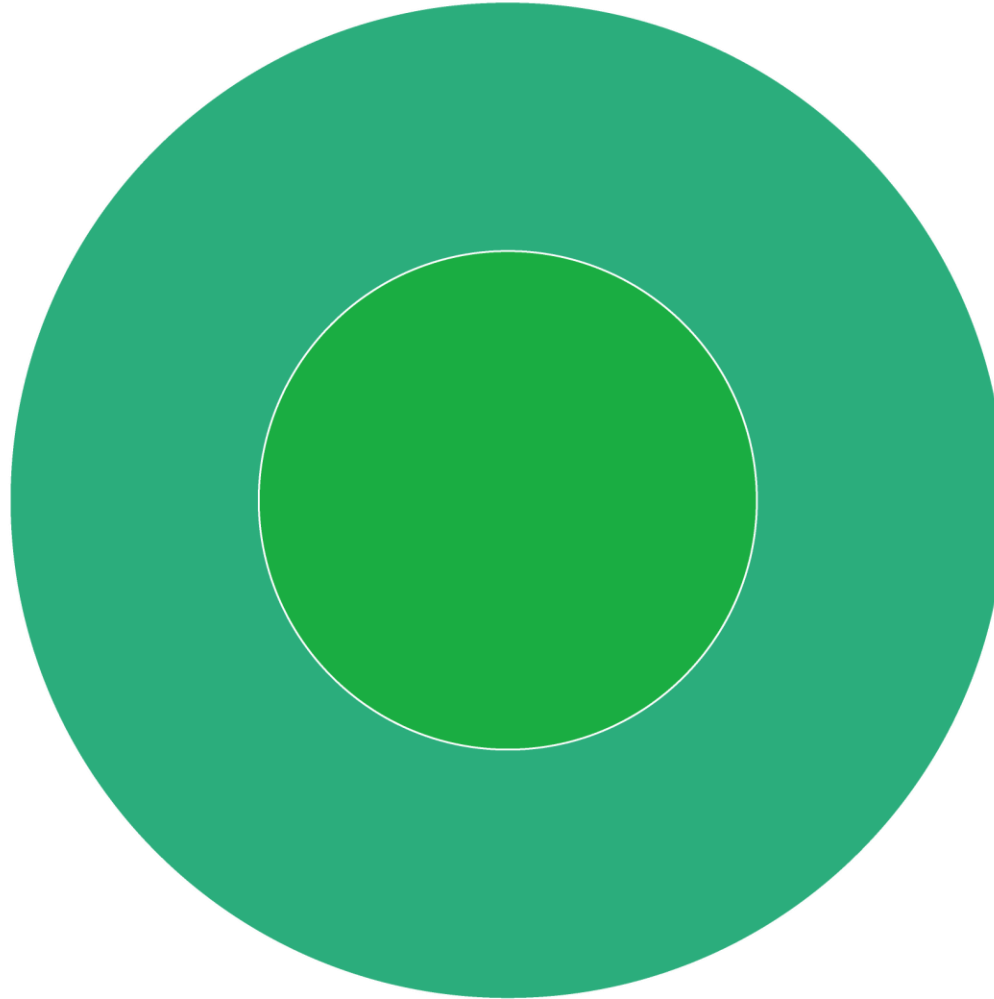
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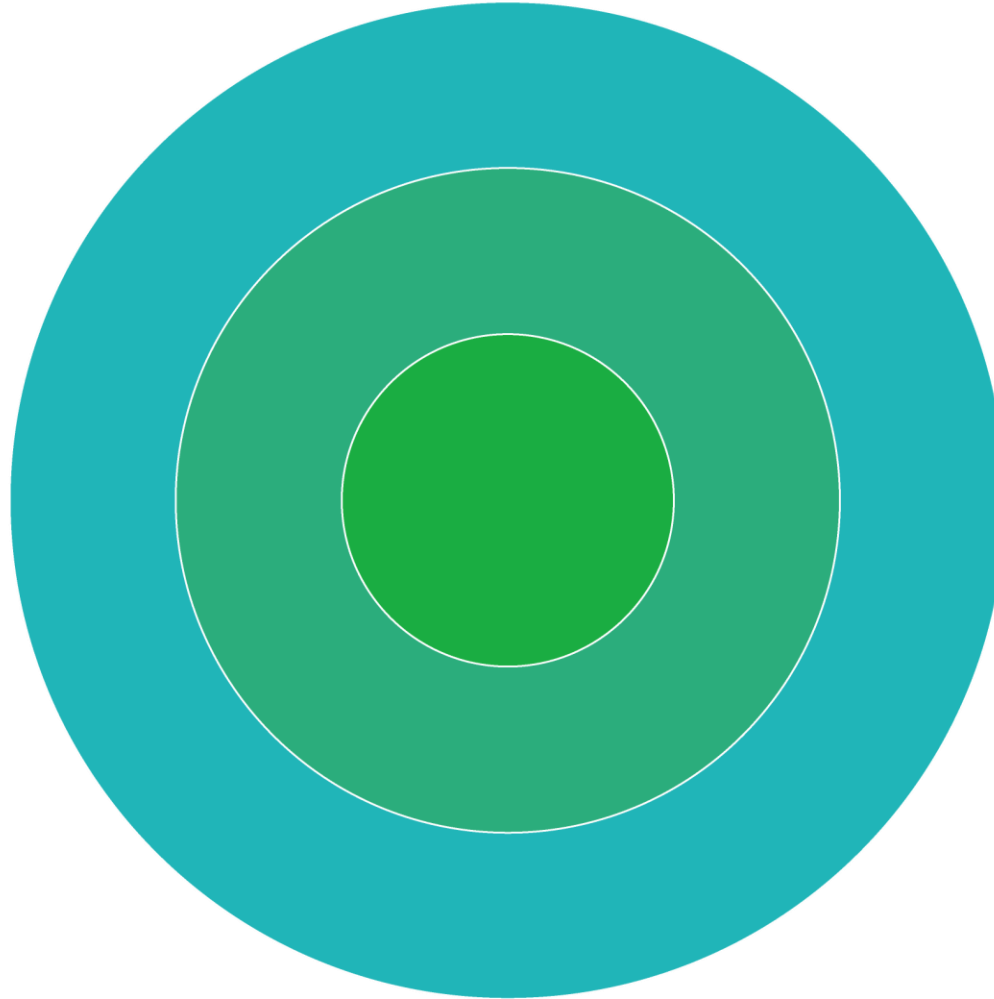
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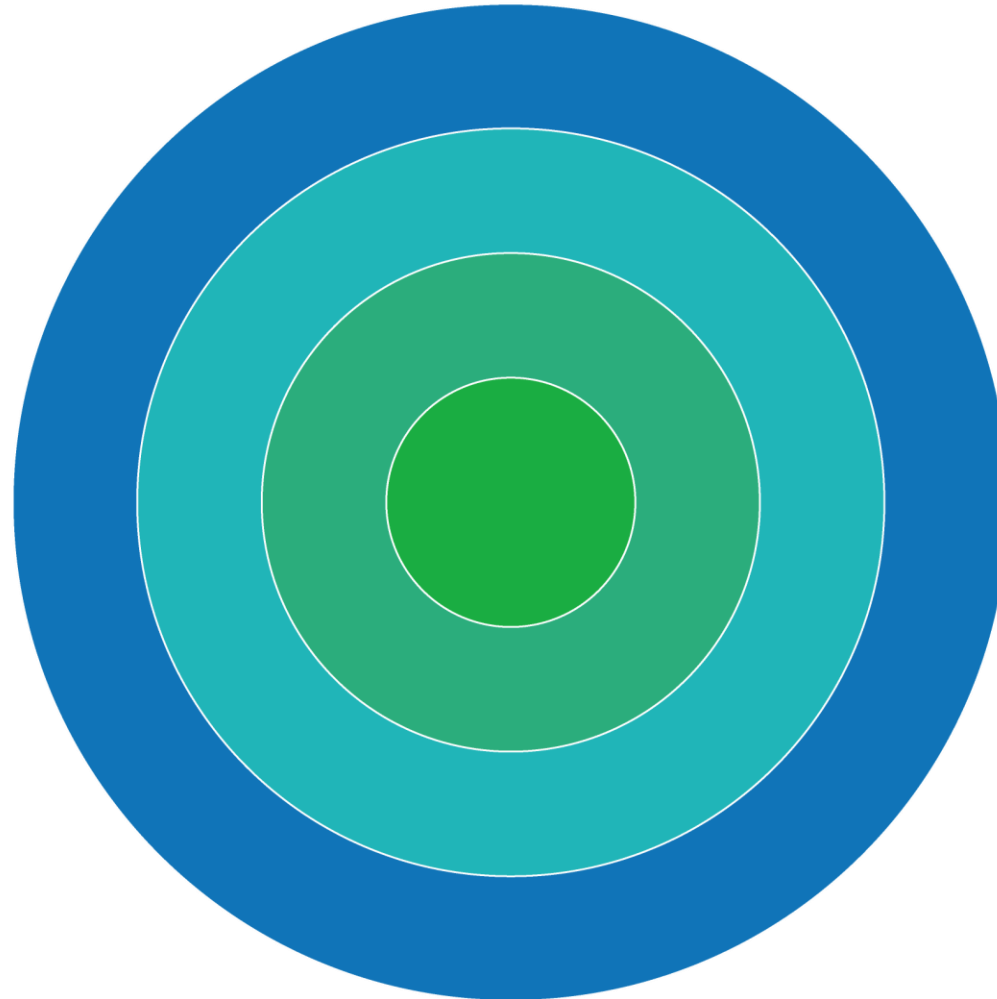
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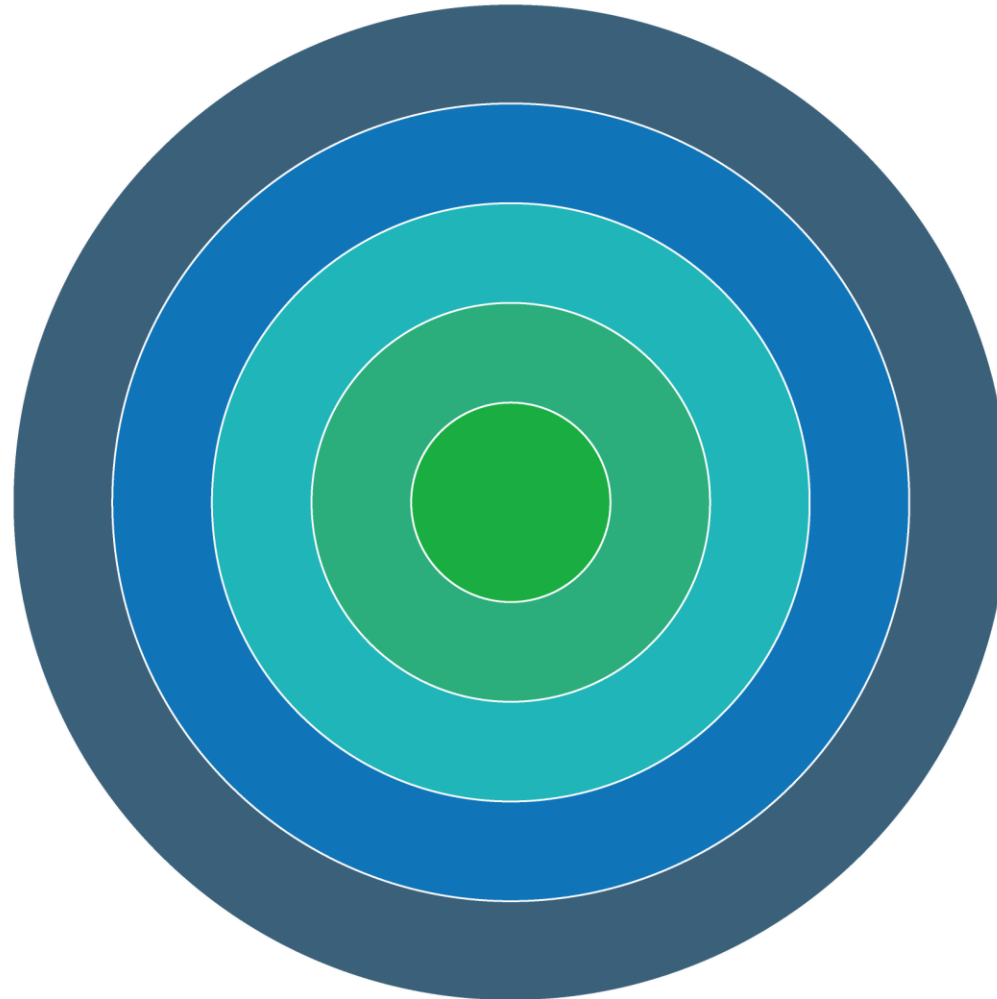
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- Internet Rules
- Secure DMZ



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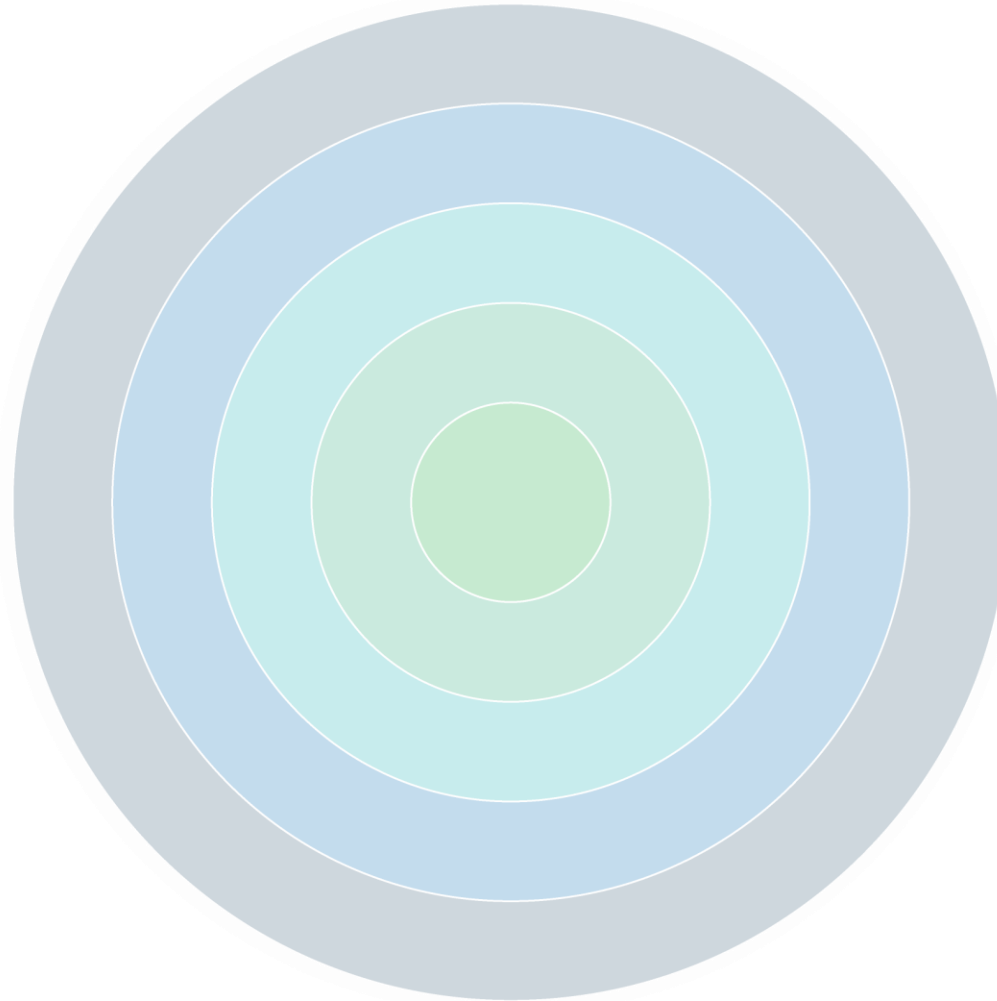
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## 6. Policies *(Spans across all layers)*

- External Security Assessment
- Phish Testing
- Acceptable Use Practices
- Password Changes
- External Storage



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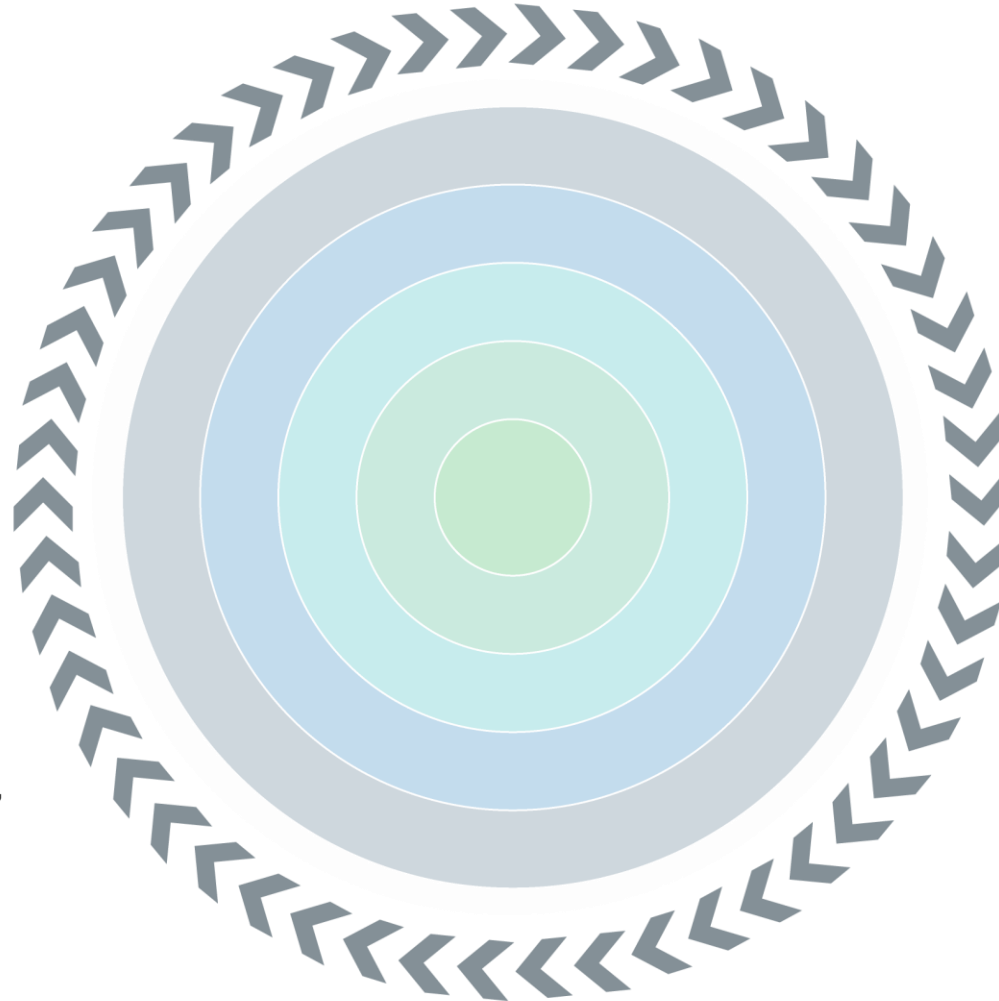
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## 7. Operations

- Continuous Monitoring
- Network Operations Center (NOC)
- Cyber Insurance





# When It Does Go Wrong...

1. Isolate the System(s) If You Can
2. DO NOT Power the System Off
3. Contact Help
  - IT Support
  - FBI Cyber Incident Response – Nearest Field Office
  - Cyber Insurance Carrier



# Contact Info for the Authorities

## **FBI Anchorage Field Office**

anchorage.FBI.gov

(907) 276-4441

## **Internet Crime Complaint Center**

www.ic3.gov

## **National Cyber Investigative Joint Task Force**

24/7 CyWatch Command Center

(855) 292-3937

cywatch@ic.fbi.gov





# The Best Defense...in This Case is a Strong Defense

- Backups are key to defending your organization
- Paying the ransom does not guarantee your data will be restored
- Network shared folders do not suffice
- A “time machine” approach is best
- The time between backups is all you lose

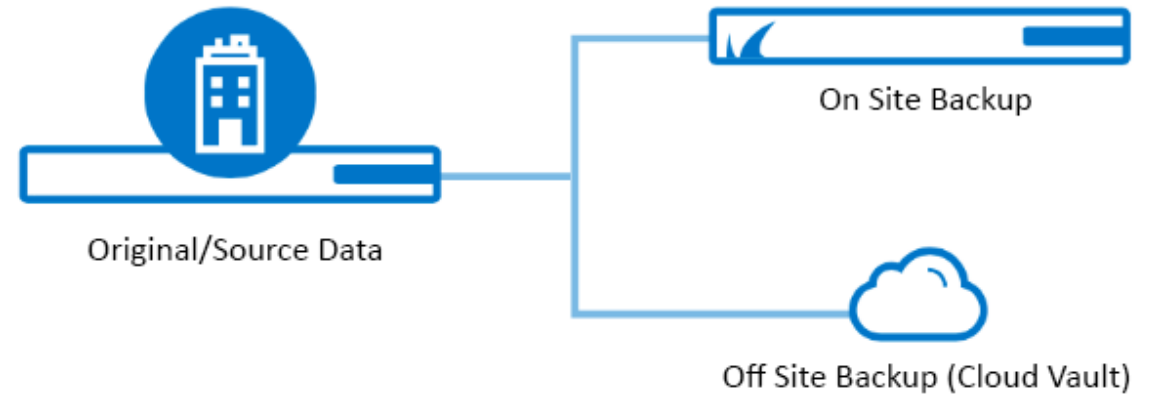


# Backing Up Your Data – Offline and Offsite

# 3 - 2 - 1

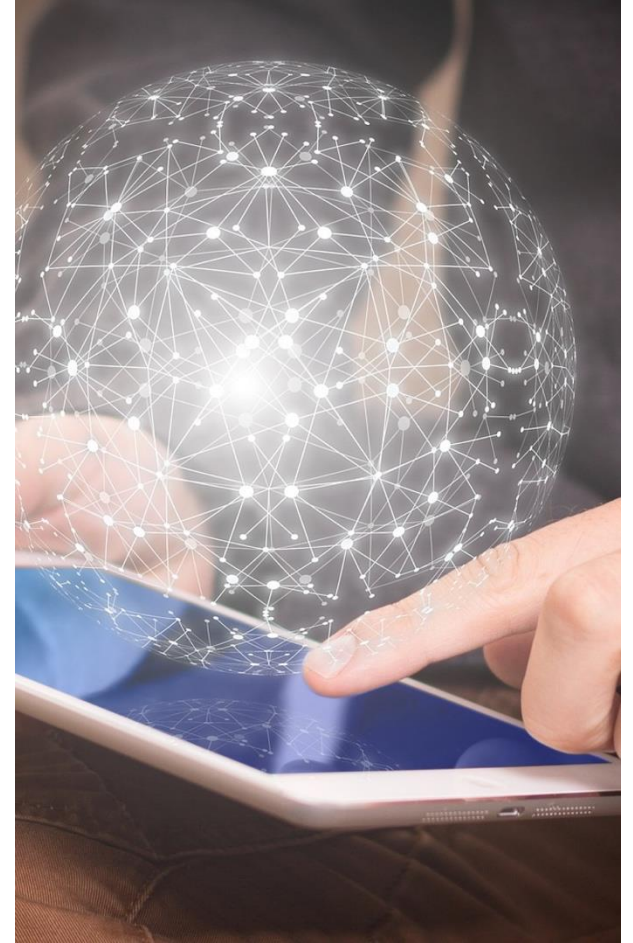
Follow the 3-2-1 rule:

- 3 copies of your data
- Store it in at 2 different location
- 1 copy must be offsite



# Best Backup Practices

- Data and system backup with both local and cloud vaults
- Fast recovery to minimize downtime
- Unlimited cloud storage; great for data archiving
- Simple management for single or multi-site deployments
- Solutions may be purchased (CapEx) or subscribed to (OpEx) for a lower fixed-price, monthly subscription





# Use Current Equipment

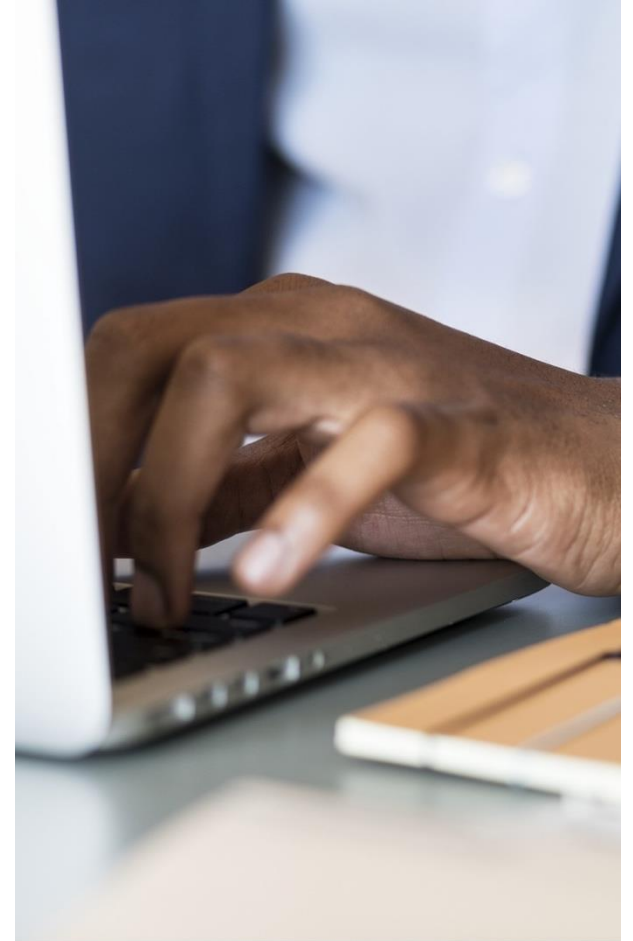
Subscribe to Hardware: Hardware as a Service Options  
*“HaaS” moves costs from CapEx to OpEx*

- **New equipment.** Desktops, laptops, tablets, and networking components for low monthly payments
- **Easier on the cash flow.** Move your hardware purchases from your capital budget to your operating budget
- **Reliability assurance.** If equipment fails, it will be replaced hassle-free
- **Upgrades.** After the initial agreement is completed, you get to upgrade your devices every three years



# The Importance of System Updates

- Ensures computers and software are fully-patched to reduce security risk
  - Many attacks leverage old exploits (e.g. Emotet, WannaCry, and WannaCrypt)
- Keep systems running at optimal efficiency – maximize employee productivity
- Best practices
  - Monitoring & Reporting
  - Automated/managed updates and patches
- Often included with Managed Services offerings that includes access to technical support for users



# Thank You

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Government



Tribal



Commercial