

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

October 4, 2019

To all DDS Safe clients:

As indicated in last week's update, the investigation into the DDS Safe ransomware attack is complete, with all signs pointing to a simple lock-out ransomware attack with no further compromise of data. Please click below to see the following materials:

- [Oct. 4 letter to DDS Safe clients](#)
- [Memorandum of investigation findings](#)
- [Ransomware and HIPAA fact sheet](#)

We recognize that this situation has been challenging for many, and we appreciate everyone's patience during this difficult time. This is the final general update that we will be providing on the attack; if you have additional questions, please contact me at mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170.

Thank you.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record
WDA Insurance & Services Corp.

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

September 26, 2019

To all DDS Safe clients:

I have good news to share in today's update. Our comprehensive investigation into the Aug. 26 ransomware attack is nearly complete. **Based on the findings of our independent forensic investigation team and the FBI, we do not believe that any practice data was compromised (beyond being encrypted) during the attack. It appears that the attack was a quick "in and out" lockdown, with no opportunity for PHI or other data to be exfiltrated or viewed. We have conducted a risk assessment of the security incident using the four factors required by 45 C.F.R. 164.402(2) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and have concluded that the security incident does not amount to a data breach.**

Investigators anticipate having a final report ready by late next week, and we will send it to all of you. The report will provide a summary of how the attack occurred, the scope of the investigation and key findings of the investigation, and will set forth best practices to help dental offices avoid similar attacks in the future. We will also provide information on our risk assessment and how we reached the conclusions we have so that each practice can conduct its own diligence and risk assessment.

While it's nice to have good news to report, we recognize that this has been a trying and difficult situation for those affected by the attack. We truly appreciate your patience during this challenging time and are committed to keeping lines of communication open. Again, please look for the investigators' final report next week, and feel free to reach out to me personally if you need anything else.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170. Additionally, we are posting the latest updates at www.dentalrecord.com and at www.WDA.org



September 26, 2019

To all WDA members:

There is positive news to share regarding the Aug. 26 DDS Safe ransomware attack – and because members continue to ask us many questions about the situation and its aftermath, I thought it important to update all of you. The comprehensive investigation into the Aug. 26 ransomware attack is nearly complete. **Based on the findings of the independent forensic investigation team and the FBI, the WDAISC does not believe that any practice data was compromised (beyond being encrypted) during the attack. It appears that the attack was a quick “in and out” lockdown, with no opportunity for PHI or other data to be exfiltrated or viewed. The WDAISC has conducted a risk assessment of the security incident using the four factors required by 45 C.F.R. 164.402(2) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and has concluded that the security incident does not amount to a data breach.**

Investigators anticipate having a final report ready by late next week, and we will send it to all WDA members. The report will provide a summary of how the attack occurred, the scope of the investigation and key findings of the investigation, as well as set forth best practices to help dental offices avoid similar attacks in the future.

While the DDS Safe attack hit very few WDA members directly, we recognize that there is significant interest in this issue among the general membership and are committed to keeping the lines of communication open. Please look for the investigators' final report next week, and please let me or

Mara Roberts (mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170) know if you have other questions. Thank you for your patience, and for your support of the WDA.

Mark Paget
Executive Director



September 19, 2019

To all WDA members:

In the immediate aftermath of the Aug. 26 ransomware attack involving the WDAISC-endorsed DDS Safe product, we knew it was important to keep members up to date on the ever-changing situation. We have now been able to confirm that very few members were actually impacted by the attack. Therefore, after today's report, the WDA will stop general email updates on the matter. DDS Safe clients will continue to receive Wednesday updates directly from The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe, and those updates will be posted on WDA.org. Should there be a development that warrants notification of the full membership, we will send a one-time Hot Issues alert with the news.

The FBI and independent forensic investigations into the attack are starting to provide a clearer picture of the scope of the incident. While it was originally thought that approximately 400 practices were impacted, it turns out that the actual number of affected practices is much lower. Fewer than 100 affected practices were DDS Safe clients (the others contracted directly with PerCSof), and as of this afternoon, the vast majority of DDS Safe users had been restored to full operations.

PerCSof continues to work toward finishing all data recovery and system restorations, with the goal of getting all affected practices up and running as soon as possible. This is an extremely slow process due to the large size of the data files involved.

Additionally, investigators with the FBI Cyber Crimes unit and the independent forensic team are in the latter stages of their review, and anticipate being able to provide initial results later this week or early next. **Please note that as of today, there continues to be no evidence of any type of data breach or information release.** Should it be determined that data was (or might have been) compromised, affected practices will be informed immediately, with ample time and guidance to comply with any reporting and patient notification requirements that might apply.

Thank you for your support of the WDA. If you have questions, please contact WDAISC President Mara Roberts at mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170.

Mark Paget
Executive Director

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

September 18, 2019

To all DDS Safe clients:

Our recovery efforts and investigation into the Aug. 26 ransomware attack are ongoing, and we are committed to continuing to provide our clients with information as we are able. Our forensic investigators are in the latter stages of their review, and we anticipate having an initial report and summary of the incident early next week so that we can determine the appropriate next steps. In the interim, we have learned that while it was originally thought that approximately 400 practices were impacted by the attack, it now appears that the actual number of affected practices is much lower. Also, fewer than 100 of those affected practices were DDS Safe clients (the others contracted directly with PerCSoft). As of this afternoon, the vast majority of DDS Safe users had been restored to full operations.

PerCSoft continues to work toward finishing all data recovery and system restorations, with the goal of getting all affected practices up and running as soon as possible. This process does take some time due to the large size of the data files involved. We know these delays have caused a great deal of frustration and inconvenience, and we sincerely appreciate everyone's patience as PerCSoft finishes its work.

Please note that as of today, there continues to be no evidence that any practice data was accessed or compromised beyond being encrypted. Should it be determined that data was (or might have been) exfiltrated or accessed, we will let affected practices know immediately, with ample time and guidance to comply with any reporting and patient notification requirements that might apply.

We will provide another update on Wednesday, Sept. 25, or when initial investigation results are available, whichever comes first. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact me (mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170) at any time.

Thank you.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170. Additionally, we are posting the latest updates at www.dentalrecord.com and at www.WDA.org.

THE DIGITAL
Dental Record

September 11, 2019

To all DDS Safe customers:

I'm writing to share this week's update on the DDS Safe ransomware attack. We continue to work closely with the FBI's Cyber Crime Task Force, PerCSoft and a national, independent forensic team to conduct a thorough investigation into the Aug. 26 attack. We expect to have information from that comprehensive review to share with affected practices sometime next week.

As you know, a key component of our investigation is determining if the ransomware attack merely locked practice systems or if it actually exposed personal and business data. We continue to get many questions about the possibility of a data breach, and it is important to note that as of this writing on Wednesday afternoon, there was still no evidence that any such breach had occurred. Should the investigation reveal that practice data was compromised (or might have been compromised), we will let you know immediately, and well in advance of any reporting and patient notification deadlines.

Some affected practices have asked if they should be conducting their own investigation into the attack. That is a business decision for individual practice owners; however, based on our initial discussions with the forensic investigators, it does not appear that each practice will need to obtain its own forensic investigation. To the contrary, at this time it appears that doing so would be duplicative as we should be able to understand the full impact of the attack through the investigation that is currently underway. If this changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.

PerCSoft reports today that most, but not all, systems impacted by the attack have been restored. The team continues to work with the rest of the affected practices to bring them back online as quickly as possible. Recovery from this attack is a long and complicated process, and we regret the inconvenience and difficulty it has caused for many clients.

We will plan another update for next Wednesday, Sept. 18. As always, if there is important information to share before then, we will do so. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact me (mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170) at any time.

Thank you.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170.



September 11, 2019

To all WDA members:

I'm writing to share this week's update on the DDS Safe ransomware attack. The WDAISC and PerCSoft continue to work closely with the FBI's Cyber Crime Task Force and a national, independent forensic team to conduct a thorough investigation into the Aug. 26 attack. They expect to have information from that comprehensive review to share with affected practices sometime next week.

Many WDA members continue to ask if private business or health data was exposed as a result of the attack. That is one of many things investigators are working to determine. As of this writing on Wednesday afternoon, there was still no evidence that any such breach had occurred. Should the investigation reveal that practice data was compromised (or might have been compromised), DDS Safe will let affected clients know immediately, and well in advance of any reporting and patient notification deadlines.

Some affected practices have asked if they should be conducting their own investigation into the attack. According to the WDAISC, that's a decision for individual practice owners; however, based on initial discussions with investigators, it does not appear that each practice will need to obtain its own forensic investigation. To the contrary, at this time it appears that doing so would be duplicative as the full impact of the attack should be understood through the investigation that is currently underway. If this changes, the WDAISC and PerCSoft will let affected practices know as soon as possible.

PerCSoft reports today that most, but not all, systems impacted by the attack have been restored. The team continues to work with the rest of the affected practices to bring them back online as quickly as possible.

We will plan another update for next Wednesday, Sept. 18. As always, if there is important information to share before then, we will do so. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact wdaisc President Mara Roberts (mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170) at any time.

Thank you.

Mark Paget
Executive Director

THE DIGITAL
Dental Record

September 5, 2019

To all DDS Safe customers:

There is not a lot of new information to report, but I did want to reach out with a short update on ransomware recovery efforts. PerCSOft continues to put clients back online, with the goal of returning everyone to full operations as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we are working closely with the FBI's CyberCrime Task Force and a national, independent forensic team to investigate the incident, ensure the threat is contained and prevent future attacks.

We know that many of you remain concerned about a possible data breach, and I stress that as of this writing, the investigation has not detected any type of compromise. If that changes, and investigators confirm that the attack released private business and patient data vs. simply locking it, DDS Safe and PerCSOft will immediately communicate that to impacted clients and assist them in complying with the appropriate next steps. The team is fully aware of the possible reporting rules and deadlines, and is working tirelessly to determine the extent of notification – if any – that may be required.

We also hear that many of you continue to be contacted by outside consultants wanting to sell specialized IT and identity restoration services in the wake of the incident. As I indicated in yesterday's update, we urge you to exercise caution when following advice from consultants who are not familiar with the details of this incident, your practice or your systems.

We regret the frustration and difficulty this situation has caused and have devoted all resources to resolving it as quickly and completely as possible. We value open communication with clients – starting next week, we will be issuing weekly email updates, usually on Wednesday afternoons. If there is important information to share between scheduled updates, we will do so. Additionally, anyone with questions can contact me (mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414-755-4170) at any time.

Thank you.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170.



September 5, 2019

To all WDA members:

As promised, I'm writing to share the latest information on the DDS Safe ransomware attack. Recovery efforts continue – the WDAISC and PerCSoft report that the majority of affected practices have been restored to full or partial operation, with the goal of returning all practices to normal as soon as possible. Additionally, the WDAISC is working closely with the FBI's CyberCrime Task Force and a national, independent forensic team to thoroughly investigate the incident, ensure it is contained and prevent future attacks.

While there is not a lot of new information to report, I want to stress a few points that are important for affected dentists and other members who may have colleagues who were impacted by the incident.

- There is still no confirmation that any business or personal data has been compromised. If the investigation reveals that a data breach did occur and that patient or other notifications are necessary or recommended, DDS Safe and PerCSoft will immediately communicate that to impacted clients and assist them in complying with the appropriate next steps. The team is fully aware of the possible reporting rules and deadlines, and is working tirelessly to determine the extent of reporting – if any – that may be required.
- Many members – not just DDS Safe clients – have been contacted by outside consultants wanting to sell specialized IT and identity restoration services in the wake of the incident. We urge that members exercise caution when following advice from consultants who are not familiar with the details of this incident, your practice or your systems.
- The WDAISC continues to hear from members with insurance questions. We urge all affected practices to contact your business insurance, cyber insurance and professional liability carriers to determine if coverage is available and start the claims process.

The interests of affected dentists and their patients are top of mind as the WDAISC and PerCSoft work through this lengthy and detailed process, and the WDA and ADA continue to closely monitor the situation, share information and offer support to members. Unless there is an urgent need to communicate new information immediately, we will start providing weekly updates – on Wednesday afternoons – next week.

Please contact WDAISC President Mara Roberts at mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414.755.4170 if you have additional questions on this matter. Thank you for your time and patience.

Mark Paget
Executive Director

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

September 4, 2019

To all DDS Safe clients:

I'm reaching out to share the latest updates on the DDS Safe ransomware attack. PerCSoft reports that efforts to restore locked data are continuing to progress, with the goal of restoring all practices to full operation as soon as possible.

As reported yesterday, we are working closely with a national, independent forensic investigation team, as well as agents with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force, to thoroughly investigate, mitigate and learn the scope of the incident. The strain of ransomware suspected in this situation has been used against other service providers in separate incidents that have not involved The Digital Dental Record or our partners. The FBI and our investigation team are assisting us in determining the full nature and the extent of the threat and, of course, ensuring it is fully contained.

A few additional updates:

- There is still no confirmation that any business or personal data has been compromised. If the investigation reveals that a data breach did occur and that patient or other notifications are necessary or recommended, DDS Safe and PerCSoft will immediately communicate that to impacted clients and assist them in complying with the appropriate next steps. The team is fully aware of the possible reporting rules and deadlines, and is working tirelessly to determine the extent of reporting – if any – that may be required.
- We have heard from many clients who have received calls from outside consultants offering data recovery and related services at a price. We understand that being contacted by an outside party in this matter is unsettling, particularly in a time of uncertainty and confusion. We urge that DDS Safe clients exercise caution when following advice from consultants who are not familiar with the details of this incident, your practice or your systems.
- We continue to get questions about insurance matters. We are advising all affected practices to contact their business insurance, cyber insurance and professional liability carriers to determine if coverage is available and start the claims process.

Please be assured that the interests of the impacted dentists and their patients are foremost in our minds as we work through this process, and we will continue to provide daily updates as long as they are helpful. We know this has been a tremendous inconvenience for many people. We regret that and are doing our best to help our clients recover from this attack as quickly and completely as possible.

Please contact me at mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414.755.4170 if you have questions or need anything else. Thank you for your time and patience.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170.

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

September 3, 2019

To all DDS Safe clients:

With Labor Day now behind us, I'd like to provide another update on the Aug. 26 DDS Safe ransomware attack. Efforts to restore locked data continued over the holiday weekend, and PerCSoft reports that approximately 80% of the affected practices are now back to full or partial operation. Restoration and recovery work will continue in the coming days, with the hope of bringing all affected practices back online as soon as possible.

As I reported last week, The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe and PerCSoft are in the process of fully investigating the scope of this attack and are working with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force agents to determine the next steps. Additionally, we are working closely with a national, independent forensic investigation team to thoroughly investigate the incident, ensure it has been contained and prevent future attacks.

The DDR/DDS Safe phone lines continue to be fully staffed, and we have received additional questions from affected clients that I think would be beneficial to address for everyone. These include:

- **What if I still need help from PerCSoft?** If you are still finding issues that need to be addressed, please compile them into one email and send it to restore@percsoft.com. When emailing, please include your name, your practice's name, and direct contact information (name, phone and email) for your IT support person/company.
- **Will individual practices need to conduct their own investigations into the attack?** DDR/DDS Safe is working with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force and a national, independent forensic team to conduct a thorough forensic investigation. We are hopeful that this investigation will uncover all the information needed to understand and remediate the full scope of the attack, and we will share the results of that investigation when we have information available. It is possible that investigation of each practice's environment may need to be done at a later date, but at this time, we are hopeful that is not necessary.
- **Has a data compromise been confirmed? Should I be notifying patients?** Determining whether personal, business and patient data was compromised is a top priority for investigators; however, it is still too early to confirm the extent of the attack and whether data was compromised (or merely locked). Notifications should not be made until a compromise is confirmed, and as of this email, no such compromise has been detected. If the investigation finds that data was compromised and notifications are required, DDR/DDS Safe and PerCSoft will immediately communicate that to impacted clients and assist them in complying with all applicable legal requirements.

We sincerely regret the inconvenience this situation has caused, and we remain committed to doing everything possible to support our clients through this difficult time. Please contact me at mroberts@profinsprog.com or 414.755.4170 if you have questions or need anything else.

Thank you for your time and patience.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe

P.S. If you know an affected DDS Safe client who is not receiving email updates, please send their contact information to mroberts@profinsprog.com or have them call me at 414.755.4170.



September 3, 2019

To all Wisconsin Dental Association members:

With Labor Day now behind us, I'd like to provide another update on the Aug. 26 DDS Safe ransomware attack. Efforts to restore locked data continued over the holiday weekend, and PerCSOft reports that approximately 80% of the affected practices are now back to full or partial operation. Restoration and recovery work will continue in the coming days, with the hope of bringing all affected practices back online as soon as possible.

I reported last week that the WDAISC and PerCSOft are in the process of fully investigating the scope of this attack and are working with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force agents to determine the next steps. Additionally, the WDAISC is working with a national, independent forensic investigation team to thoroughly investigate the incident, ensure it has been contained and prevent future attacks. The WDA and the ADA are monitoring the situation closely, helping to share information and doing what we can to support our members at this difficult time.

We continue to get questions about whether practice or patient data was accessed or compromised in the attack. In ransomware attacks, systems are encrypted and locked, but data is not always accessed or stolen. Determining whether information was accessed or stolen is a top priority for investigators; however, it is still too early to confirm the extent of the attack and whether a data breach occurred. If the investigation finds that data was compromised, WDAISC and PerCSOft will promptly communicate that information to clients and assist them in complying with all legal requirements for patient notifications and other steps that may apply.

I will plan to send another member update on Thursday, Sept. 5. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact WDAISC President Mara Roberts (mroberts@profinsprog.com – add "DDS Safe" to your subject line – or 414.755.4170).

As always, many thanks for your continued patience and support of the WDA.

Mark Paget
Executive Director

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

August 30, 2019

To all DDS Safe customers:

As we head into the holiday weekend, I want to take a moment to update you on the recovery and restoration efforts that have been taking place since the ransomware attack on Monday, Aug. 26. Data recovery and system restoration is a slow and methodical process, and we deeply regret the frustration and inconvenience this has caused for you, your employees and your patients. We continue to be in extremely close contact with PerCSOft, which reports it has brought in additional support to assist with and expedite the restoration process. We do not have an exact number of practices that have been restored, but PerCSOft indicates they are making progress and will continue that work over the long weekend. DDS Safe will continue to take customer calls (414.755.4170 or 414.755.4196) over the holiday as well.

As the recovery process continues, we have received a few questions from clients that I thought would be helpful to address for the larger group:

- **Filing insurance claims:** Several clients have asked about insurance matters. We are advising all affected practices to contact their business insurance, cyber insurance and professional liability carriers to determine if coverage is available and start the claims process.
- **Communicating with patients about PHI and patient data:** We are currently in the process of fully investigating the scope of this ransomware attack and are working with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force agents to determine the next steps we should take. We have not yet been able to determine whether any practice or patient data was accessed or compromised. In ransomware attacks, systems are encrypted and locked, but data is not always taken. It is too early in the investigation to confirm the extent of the attack and whether any data was compromised. If we learn that data was compromised, we will communicate that with you and comply with all legal requirements that may apply.

Dentists have also asked if they should be proactively notifying patients of a potential compromise. At this time, we caution against making any notifications because, as set forth above, we simply do not know the scope of the attack. We do not want to inform patients that their information has been compromised if it has not been. Likewise, we do not want to make any assurances that no data was compromised as we may learn it has been. While we understand the process is unsettling, we ask that you allow us to complete our investigation prior to sending any notifications. We will have our investigation completed and will provide you with information within all legal reporting periods so that any required notifications can be made. If you would simply like to communicate with your patients given the business disruption,

you may certainly do that, but please make it clear that the scope of the incident is still uncertain and that we are working hard to investigate the situation completely.

- **Responding to media inquiries:** We have heard from some clients who have been contacted by media regarding the situation. The decision to speak with media is yours; however, if you would like DDS Safe to respond to an inquiry, please contact Brenna Sadler at 414.755.4108 or bsadler@profservices.net.

We know this has been a difficult week, and we remain committed to doing everything possible to support you and your practice. Our team will be on duty throughout the holiday weekend; please call 414.755.4170 or 414.755.4196 if you have questions or need anything at all. We appreciate your patience and will work hard to regain your trust.

Mara Roberts
The Digital Dental Record/DDS Safe
414.755.4170
mroberts@profinsprog.com



August 30, 2019

To all Wisconsin Dental Association members:

I want to thank those of you who took the time to respond to the WDA's Thursday, Aug. 29, email update on the DDS Safe situation. We received some very good questions, particularly from dentists who are receiving calls from patients worried about the security of their personal data. I thought it would be helpful to provide more information to help members address patient concerns, as well as share the latest update about restoration efforts heading into the holiday weekend.

As reported in yesterday's update, the WDAISC and PerCSoft are in the process of fully investigating the scope of this ransomware attack and are working with the FBI's Cyber Crimes Task Force agents to determine next steps. They have not yet been able to determine whether any practice or patient data was accessed or compromised. In ransomware attacks, systems are encrypted and locked, but data is not always taken. It is too early in the investigation to confirm the extent of the attack and whether any data was compromised. If the investigation finds that data was compromised, WDAISC and PerCSoft will communicate that to clients and comply with all legal requirements that may apply.

Dentists have also asked if they should be proactively notifying patients of a potential compromise. At

this time, legal counsel urges caution against making any notifications because, as set forth above, the scope of the attack is just not known. We don't want to inform patients that information has been compromised if it hasn't, nor do we want to make assurances that data was not compromised if it was. While that process may be unsettling, it is important that the investigation be completed before sending out any notifications. We are assured the investigation will be finished and any information provided within all legal reporting periods so that any required notifications can be made. If you would simply like to communicate with your clients about the business disruption, you may certainly do that, but please make it clear that the scope of the incident is still uncertain and that work is under way to investigate the situation completely.

As is often the case in situations like this one, we have heard several rumors making the rounds, including speculation about ransom paid to the hackers who orchestrated the attack. While we are unable to discuss details of the attack due to the ongoing investigation, I want to assure all members that the WDA has not paid a ransom of any type, and no member dues have been used in resolution of this situation.

We remain in close contact with the WDAISC and PerCSOft, which reports it has brought in additional support to assist with and expedite the restoration process. We do not have an exact number of practices that have been restored, but PerCSOft reports they are making continual progress on data recoveries. Work will continue over the long holiday weekend, and WDAISC staff will continue to take customer calls over the holiday as well.

I will plan to send another member update on Tuesday, Sept. 3. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact WDAISC President Mara Roberts (mroberts@profinsprog.com – add “DDS Safe” to your subject line – or 414.755.4170).

Thank you for your continued patience and support.

Mark Paget
Executive Director

THE DIGITAL Dental Record

“At 8:44 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 26, we learned that ransomware had been deployed on the remote management software our product uses to back up client data. Immediate action was taken to investigate and contain the threat. Our investigation and remediation efforts continue. Unfortunately, a number of practices have been and continue to be impacted by this attack.

“We deeply regret the frustration and inconvenience this has caused our clients, and we are working diligently with them and the software company to restore files as quickly and completely as possible. Restoration is a slow and methodical process that could take several more days to complete. Additionally, we are actively communicating with clients to answer questions, facilitate contact with appropriate insurance carriers and address other business concerns.

“The safety and security of the technology solutions we provide our clients is always our top priority. In conjunction with law enforcement, we are actively investigating the incident and will provide more information when we are able.”



August 29, 2019

To all Wisconsin Dental Association members:

As we head into the holiday weekend, I want to take a moment to update you on an ongoing situation involving DDS Safe, a WDA endorsed product that is part of the WDA Insurance & Services Corp. At 8:44 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 26, WDAISC learned that ransomware had been deployed on the remote management software DDS Safe uses to back up client data. PerCSOft, the IT vendor for DDS Safe, took immediate action to contain the threat; however, roughly 400 practices around the country lost access to electronic files as a result of the virus.

PerCSOft assures us it is working to restore files as quickly and completely as possible, but restoration is a slow and methodical process that could take several days to complete. In the meantime, DDS Safe and the WDAISC are actively communicating with their clients to answer questions, facilitate contact with insurance carriers and address other business concerns. WDAISC is working diligently to fully investigate the situation and ensure it has been contained. It is also working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's CyberCrime Unit as part of the investigation and response. We are in close communication with them and will provide updates when we can.

The safety, security and high quality of the endorsed products and services the WDA provides and recommends for our members is extremely important to us, and we are taking this matter very seriously. As WDAISC and PerCSOft work to return their clients to business, we are monitoring the situation, offering our assistance and fielding calls from members and the media. We are working closely with legal counsel, our insurers, the ADA and WDAISC leadership to ask questions, get answers and determine our next steps moving forward. At all times, what is good and right for our members, our members' livelihoods and the strength of the WDA is top of mind.

Our understanding is that only a small percentage of the affected practices are in Wisconsin, and that WDAISC and PerCSOft have been in touch with most of them. If you continue to have questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to reach out to WDAISC President Mara Roberts (mroberts@profinsprog.com – add “DDS Safe” to your subject line – or 414.755.4170). We will also provide updates on WDA.org as they are available.

Thank you for your patience and support during this very difficult situation.

Mark Paget
Executive Director