



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003-4733



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DCBOE Responds to Voter Information Data Breach

Washington, D.C.--On October 5, 2023, the District of Columbia Board of Elections (DCBOE) became aware that a hacking group known as RansomVC claimed to have breached DCBOE's records and accessed 600,000 lines of US voter data, including DC voter records.

While DCBOE is still investigating this matter, DCBOE has found that voter records were accessed through a breach of the web server of DataNet, DCBOE's website hosting provider. No internal DCBOE databases or servers were directly compromised.

DCBOE has taken the following actions during the initial phase of our investigation:

- DCBOE initiated an internal assessment and began working with its data security and federal government partners to investigate the breach. These partners include, but are not limited to, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Homeland Security (DHS), and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO). DCBOE is collaborating with MS-ISAC's Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) to resolve the issue.
- DCBOE took down its website and replaced it with a maintenance page upon learning that our website was the source of the breach.
- DCBOE conducted vulnerability scans on our database, server, and other IT networks.

DCBOE continues to assess the full extent of the breach, identify vulnerabilities, and take appropriate measures to secure voter data and systems.

It should be noted that in the District of Columbia, some voter registration data—such as voter names, addresses, voting records, and party affiliation—is public information, unless it has been made confidential in accordance with District of Columbia rules and regulations. DCBOE shares this information upon request in compliance with the law.

This remains an active investigation and DCBOE will release additional information as it becomes available.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections is an independent agency of the District of Columbia Government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access, and voter registration.

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