



County Executive Office

Memorandum

S41A

2009 OCT 13 PM 2:25

ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 9, 2009

Board Date: October 20, 2009

To: Chair Patricia Bates, Supervisor, 5th District
Vice Chair Janet Nguyen, Supervisor, 1st District
Members, Board of Supervisors

*David
Pat Bates*

From: Satish Ajmani, Deputy CEO and Chief Information Officer

Satish Ajmani

Subject: Proclaiming October 2009 as "Cyber Security Awareness Month" in our County

Overview

Orange County takes its commitment to mitigate cyber security threats very seriously and can convey that commitment to its employees and the public by adopting the accompanying resolution proclaiming October 2009 as "Cyber Security Awareness Month."

Our work and home lives continue to become even more dependent upon the Internet and the security of the information that passes through it. Even when not directly connected, our economy and much of the everyday infrastructure we rely on uses the web. Ultimately, our cyber infrastructure is only as strong as the weakest link. No individual, business, or government entity is solely responsible for cyber security. Everyone has shared responsibility to secure cyber space and the networks they use and to understand how their individual actions have a collective impact on cyber security.

October 2009 marks the sixth annual national public awareness campaign to encourage everyone to protect their computers and our nation's critical cyber infrastructure. The Department of Homeland Security, National Cyber Security Alliance, and Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center are the primary drivers of this effort. In addition, the President of the United States has declared his support. The U.S. Senate and 41 governors have taken steps to officially recognize the month as a time to focus on how we can keep our information secure.

In 2008, the office of the CIO, working with the IT Business Council Working Group, County Counsel and Human Resources, agreed to an updated set of County IT Security Policies, including a revised County IT Usage policy. Human Resources recently completed labor meetings that secured approval for the rollout of the County's updated IT Usage Policy to all employees. This proclamation will provide additional visibility to aid in our Security Awareness campaign and adoption of these refreshed policies.

Recommendation

The Chief Information Officer recommends the Board:

1. Adopt attached resolution proclaiming October 2009 as Cyber Security Awareness Month in Orange County.

Measures/Evaluation

Measurement for these activities is difficult to gather. However, this is another step in building the confidence in the constituents and employees of Orange County.

Fiscal Impact

No additional costs.

BACKGROUND

The CEO and CIO invite you to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Cyber Security Division (NCSD), Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), and National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO), to affirm your commitment to securing cyberspace and protecting the citizens who daily rely on Internet technologies.

This October, the sixth annual National Cyber Security Awareness Month will highlight the empowerment of citizens, businesses, government, and schools to improve their cyber security preparedness. This year's theme focuses on our shared responsibility to address cyber security. In this digital age, it is essential each of us understands our important role in securing cyberspace. Your endorsement will help Americans learn more about cyber security and how to safeguard themselves—and therefore all of us collectively—from cyber-based threats.

DISCUSSION

The increased frequency of reports of Internet information breaches and the volume and complexity of cyber attacks is a constant reminder of the need to promote cyber security awareness. National Cyber Security Awareness Month was born from this recognition and is a focal point of NCSD, MS-ISAC, and NCSA shared efforts.

Another component of the National Cyber Security Awareness Campaign is the "Cyber Security Toolkit" to promote a consistent awareness message. We will be using elements from the toolkit to share the importance of sound cyber security practices with our workforce and the media.

The Toolkit is available at <http://www.oispp.ca.gov/government/library/awareness.asp#ms>

Additional information for educating citizens on cyber issues and implementing cyber security practices are also available:

- DHS United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team – www.US-CERT.gov
- Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center – www.MSISAC.org
- National Cyber Security Alliance – www.StaySafeOnline.org
- National Association of State Chief Information Officers – www.nascio.org
- California Counties Information Services Directors Association – www.ccisda.org
- Sacramento County, Chief Information Officer – www.ocit.saccounty.net/InformationSecurity

By working together, we can raise cyber security awareness and promote security practices. Your active involvement will help to facilitate a safe Internet experience for all Americans.

Attachment

Resolution

COUNTY OF ORANGE

RESOLUTION NO. _____

PROCLAMATION FOR OCTOBER 2009 TO BE CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

WHEREAS, the County of Orange is increasingly reliant on the Internet to bring government services and information to constituents, employees, businesses, and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Internet users and the County's information infrastructure face an increasing threat of malicious cyber attack, loss of privacy from spyware and adware and potential significant financial risk; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of the County of Orange's information infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (www.us-cert.gov), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (www.msisac.org), the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, (www.nascio.org), and the State of California Office of Information Security (<http://www.cio.ca.gov/OIS/>) have declared October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are encouraged to visit the web sites for these organizations to learn about cyber security and put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the County of Orange has collaboratively worked with County Departments and Labor Unions and other State and Federal entities to update cyber security policies in order to enhance the security of the County, its staff and constituents; and

WHEREAS, the County of Orange's internal Security Awareness Program begins this month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange that the Board does hereby proclaim the month of October 2009 as **Cyber Security Awareness Month** in the County of Orange.