



News Release

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Arizona Affected by America's Job Link Alliance Security Incident

Company Taking Steps to Combat Cyber Attackers

PHOENIX – Arizona and up to nine other states who contract with America's Job Link Alliance (AJLA) were affected by a [recent hacking incident to the AJLA system](#). It was announced by AJLA that between February 20 and March 14, 2017, a malicious third-party hacker exploited a vulnerability in its application code to view confidential client data including names, dates of birth and Social Security numbers. Arizona utilizes web services provided by America's Job Link Alliance (AJLA) for its [Arizona Job Connection \(AJC\)](#) website (<https://azjobconnection.gov>), a job search bank utilized by job seekers.

AJLA has stated it located the vulnerability and eliminated the threat. The company is currently reviewing details surrounding the breach to determine who has been affected and how. Further information will be available to states in the coming days, and a posting will appear on the [main DES website](#) (<https://des.az.gov/>) as well as the AJC website.

"Maintaining client confidentiality is something we take extremely seriously at DES," said DES Interim Director Henry Darwin. "DES is taking contractual action to ensure client privacy is not compromised in the future."

The hacker was found to have activity in the AJLA systems of ten states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Oklahoma and Vermont.

An independent forensic firm was retained by AJLA and is investigating the cause and scope of the incident. Law enforcement was also contacted and is working with the FBI to identify and apprehend the perpetrator.

A toll-free phone number (1-844-469-3939) is available for job seekers who have questions or concerns. It will be open from 9:00am – 9:00pm EST, Monday-Friday. Additionally, e-mail notifications will be issued by AJLA to affected AJC users to notify them of the breach. Credit monitoring will be offered at no cost to the individual affected.

Throughout this process, DES will be working with AJLA to identify how this occurred and the process the company is putting into place to ensure this does not happen again.

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