

## ANONYMOUS GOVERNMENT CASE STUDY

# GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION PROTECTS ITS CITIZENS BY AVOIDING DATA BREACHES



A government agency responsible for the administrative affairs of its nation and the effective management of public policy, must protect the personal information of 50 million of its citizens and government personnel. This government institution has never fallen victim to any major breaches—and seeks to maintain that record.

## SUMMARY

This top government institution is now able to better protect its most valuable assets—its citizens' welfare. By incorporating Lumu into its security strategy they are able to gain real-time detection of compromises, a better understanding of its level of compromise, and context about the compromises within the organization.

## THE PROBLEM: MEASURE AND UNDERSTAND COMPROMISE

As a major government agency, a breach is not only a monetary loss but also can quickly turn into a national security event. In the last year, we have witnessed several government breaches:

- At least 174 municipal institutions suffered ransomware attacks in 2019, according to Kaspersky. This includes the Town of East Greenwich, the City of Pensacola, Lake City, the City of Baltimore, the City of Atlanta, and more.
- Government of Quebec, Canada (February 2020) – The government of Quebec admitted to a data breach potentially impacting around 360,000 teachers employed in the Canadian province.
- Aurora Water, US (January 2020) – Customers of this Colorado water supplier were the latest victims of a series of attacks on the Click2Gov municipality payment software.
- Brazilian government (October 2019) – Details relating to as many as 92 million Brazilian citizens were reported to be on sale on the dark web.

This means that an attack is not a remote possibility, but a reality affecting a wide range of public service entities, including at a federal level and local municipalities, so taking action and being a progressive organization in cybersecurity is a must.

The first challenge is to be able to detect any compromises at speed. Not just content with relying on their robust defenses, they want not only to detect compromises but to understand the context and what is happening around them to stop breaches at speed.

## THE SOLUTION: IMPLEMENT CONTINUOUS COMPROMISE ASSESSMENT

After seeing Lumu's unique approach and how it could help them get the most out of their cyber defense, they decided to start the implementation at their various locations around the country. Lumu immediately revealed compromises that had gone undetected by its existing cybersecurity stack—including SIEMs, EDRs, anti-virus, and more.

This demonstration of value led the Government institution to implement Lumu Insights in several locations. The solution proved to offer an easy and accelerated deployment model and the intuitive interface allowed them to track compromises in real time, as well as ascertain their level of compromise.

“As a high-level government institution, our information security budget is significant and our cybersecurity tools are the most modern. However, Lumu came to change everything by showing us compromise in real time and being able to understand that compromise. Our goal is to protect our citizens and ensure that as a national government we continue to provide our essential services, and Lumu is helping us to accomplish that.”

## HOW LUMU HELPED

Their security team is able to spend their time on what really matters. Lumu detected nearly 500 compromises in the first 3 months. The majority of attacks were Malware and Phishing so they adjusted their extensive cyberdefense in response.

As a government institution, they need to meet multiple regulations including periodic vulnerability assessment and penetration testing. However, they have become empowered with factual information with the Continuous Compromise Assessment strategy placing them in a much better position with respect to the cybersecurity posture they had.

They are able to determine the effectiveness of their security stack with information to make better decisions and by having a continuous baseline to compare against.

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