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THE VENETIAN
澳門威尼斯人

Mobile city email system attacked by hackers

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By **John Sharp** | jsharp@al.com
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on October 27, 2014 at 12:08 PM, updated October 27, 2014 at 1:38 PM

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Government Plaza in Mobile, Ala. (file photo)

MOBILE, Alabama --

Hackers shut down the city of Mobile's external email system last week, causing a massive disruption in email that affected all city departments.

The system is up and running Monday after the nearly six-day shutdown. The city is now encouraging anyone who sent an email to any city employee last week -- including police and fire departments -- to resend their message since not all of the emails were recovered after what city spokesman George Talbot called a **"cyber attack."**


The server shut down Tuesday afternoon when the hackers used the city's computer system to send out spam and email blasts, according to a news release. No citizen's private information was compromised during the attack, Talbot said.

He said the cyber attack is being investigated by "the proper authorities."

A new system, according to Talbot, has replaced a 20-year-old server to protect against future cyber attacks. The new server was installed last week and the transfer of data was completed over the weekend, he said.


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John Sharp | jsharp@al.com

Oct 28, 2014

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http://www.al.com/news/mobile/index.ssf/2014/10/tip_s_on_how_to_prevent_a_cyber.html

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Wait ... 20 years ... they hadn't upgraded their email system since I was in high school?!?! Are you freaking kidding me?

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Stimpson mentioned needed IT upgrades during his campaign. It would fall under the overall neglect of the city's capital needs we experienced under the Jones administration.

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