

May 8, 2019

Honorable Members of the Illinois General Assembly,

In accordance with the Personal Information Protection Act (815 ILCS 530), please be advised of the following:

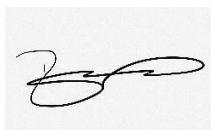
Under the Open Operating Standards Act, the State of Illinois routinely posts a list of active watercraft registration data to the Illinois Open Data Portal (<https://data.illinois.gov>), which is controlled by the Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT). From April 4-8 and April 29-May 1, 2019, watercraft registration records containing personal information were inadvertently uploaded to the State of Illinois Open Data Portal, making it available to the public.¹ Each record contained the full name, address, gender, date of birth, and social security number of watercraft owners and was available to the public during those time periods.

DoIT has determined that in each instance the four same IP addresses downloaded the information. Two of the entities that downloaded the information have deleted the information, and DoIT diligently continues to work on contacting the remaining IP addresses to have any downloaded information erased. The security of personal information is our top priority, and we are vigilantly investigating these incidents and taking all necessary measures to ensure that inadvertent disclosures of personal information are prevented in the future.

In collaboration with state agencies who use the portal and as a result of these incidents, DoIT has reviewed its policies, procedures, and requirements on how data is published to the Open Data Portal to ensure that prior to any publication of data, it is appropriately reviewed and approved prior to publication. DoIT has initiated additional steps internally to safeguard and prevent the posting of personal information to avoid similar incidents in the future. DoIT is working with the Office of the Attorney General, and in conjunction with DNR, is preparing required notifications to impacted individuals and credit rating agencies.

Please contact DoIT Chief of Staff, Jennifer Ricker, at Jennifer.Ricker@illinois.gov or 217.524.6368 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Ron Guerrier
State CIO Secretary

¹ On April 15, 2019, written notification of the April 4-8 release was provided to the General Assembly.