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OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

CITY STAFF EMAIL ACCOUNT COMPROMISED, ATTACHMENT FOUND TO BE NON-THREATENING

DES PLAINES, Illinois (June 14, 2023) – The City of Des Plaines Government would like to inform the public that a city staff email account was recently compromised and fraudulent messages were sent to members of the public. Although the incident may cause concern among residents, we have confirmed that the attachment included in the fraudulent email does not pose any threat to the cybersecurity or personal information of the recipients.

Based on the information we have at this time, Mike Bartholomew, City Manager's email account was the only account impacted. Upon discovering the breach, The City's Information Technology (IT) Department took immediate action to secure the account and investigate the matter. After a thorough analysis of the email and the attachment, it has been determined that there is no potential risk associated with the email or attachment.

If you received an email on June 13 between 4 and 5 p.m. from the City Manager, please delete it. While this incident did not result in any compromise of personal information or sensitive data, we strongly urge all residents to exercise caution when interacting with emails that look suspicious. The City continues to investigate the source of the compromise. We encourage you to remain vigilant and avoid clicking on suspicious links or providing personal information unless the source can be verified as legitimate.

We apologize for any inconvenience or concern caused by this incident. Our IT team is working diligently to enhance our security measures and prevent such incidents from occurring in the future.

For additional information or concerns, residents are encouraged to contact Media Services at 847-391-6122 or visit our official website at desplaines.org.

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