

# Cyber and Data Security: Claims, Coverage and Marketplace Trends

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# Presentation Agenda



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**Claim Issues and Trends**

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**The Role of Breach Counsel**

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**Policy Placement Issues in  
the Marketplace**

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**Q&A**

# Panelists



**Aaron Stone**

*Brown & Brown, Moderator*



**Eric Olson**

*Brown & Brown, Panelist*



**Shari Keiser**

*Starr Companies, Panelist*



**Jennifer Coughlin**

*Mullen Coughlin, Panelist*



**01**

# **Claim Issues and Trends**

# Claim Issues and Trends

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## Incidence and Types of Claims

- Ransomware
  - » 2023 a “record breaking” year- estimated up to 7,600 impacted organizations
  - » More active criminal groups: 47 up from 35 in 2022
  - » Average cost rose to \$5.13M in 2023, a 13% increase from 2022
- Social Engineering
- Business email compromises

## Industries Impacted

- Size of Target
  - » Companies with \$100M+ in annual revenue prime targets
  - » Companies with \$25M-\$100M in annual revenue saw significant increase in frequency
- Type
  - » Healthcare, Energy, Professional Services, Manufacturing and Construction
  - » Law Practices and Transportation, Logistics and Storage were prime ransomware targets in 2023

## Losses

- Breach Expenses, Ransom payments, Business Interruption (Direct and Contingent)

# Claim Issues and Trends

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## Third-Party Vendor Breaches

- What are they?
- How do carriers adjust them?
- Immediate impacts
  - » Notification obligations
  - » Contingent Business Interruption
- Contractual obligations/Subrogation Opportunities

## Recent Claims

- SolarWinds
- MOVEit Transfer
- Change Healthcare

## Emergence of AI

- What are possible impacts?





# Claim Issues and Trends

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## Claim Process

- Reporting
- Role of Adjuster
- Communication with Insured

## Common Coverage Issues

- Use of Panel v. Non-Panel Vendors
- Covered v. Non-Covered Loss (e.g. restoration v. betterment)
- Ransom: to pay or not to pay?
- Business Interruption Damages
  - » Does Policy afford Claims Preparation Costs
  - » Definition of Business Interruption Loss
  - » Waiting Period/Period of Indemnity
  - » Adjustment Process

**02**

## **The Role of Breach Counsel**



# Breach Counsel

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## Legal Purpose

- Attorney Client Privilege/Attorney Work Product Doctrine
- Regulatory compliance advice

## Coordination of Vendors

- Project management
- Facilitation of vendor engagement for forensics, ransom negotiation/payment, network restoration, data mining, public relations, etc.
- Facilitation of prior approval of expenses from carrier

## Notification advice and assistance

- Assessment of consumer and regulatory notification obligations
- Drafting of statutorily compliant notification letters
- Facilitation of vendor engagement for notification and remediation services such as credit monitoring and identify theft insurance

## Communication with carrier and insured

- Establish cadence of communication
- Ensure all stakeholders are appropriately informed of status of matter and key decisions throughout the process



# Breach Counsel

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## Pre-incident Mitigation Actions

- Incident response planning
- Tabletop exercises to test the incident response plan
- Conduct gap analysis of data privacy and information security programs
- Defend against evolving malicious technology and behavior
  - » Maintain conventional layered defense
  - » Maintain and test backup systems
  - » Prioritize security patching
  - » Implement multi-factor authentication to email platform, network and core applications
  - » Implement heuristic-based endpoint detection and response tools and monitor 24/7 for malicious behavior
  - » Strong password management
- Conduct third party contract review for liability related to data privacy and information security provisions; ensure inclusion of appropriate defense and indemnification language
- Update data privacy policies to account for evolving state legislation
- Update information security policies and procedures to incorporate evolving defenses

**03**

## **Policy Placement Issues in the Marketplace**

# Placement Issues

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**Rates in the cyber market are stabilizing on primary policies, currently averaging a reduction of 1% to 5% with even greater competition on layered programs.**

- Increasing capacity, which is furthering the softening on pricing
- Frequency of cyber claims are still increasing, specifically for:
  - » Professional Services
  - » Education
  - » Manufacturing
- Carriers are closely monitoring privacy claims
  - » In many cases, they are adding language to clarify intent or narrow their coverage



# Placement Issues

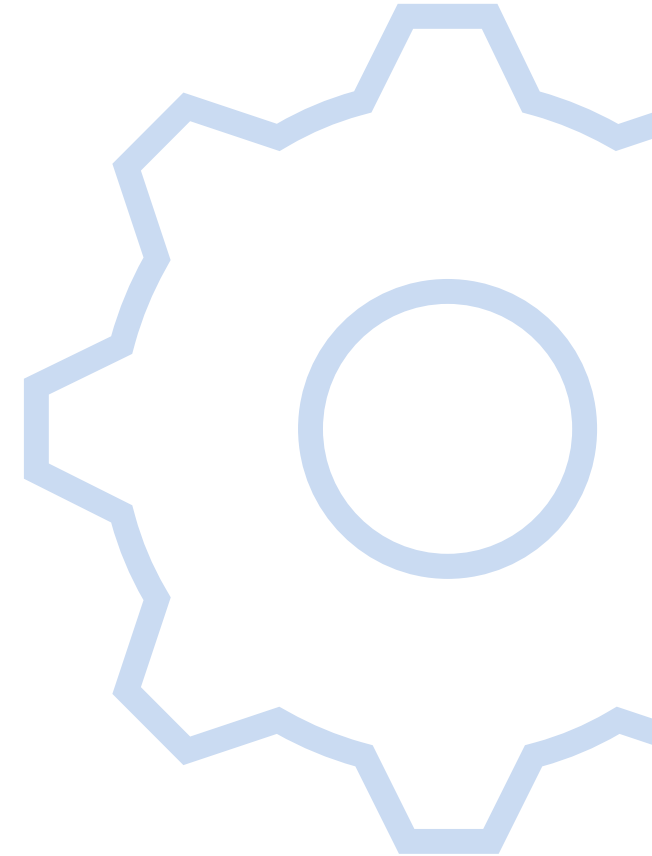
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**Underwriting standards remain high, with most carriers requiring the following controls to offer terms:**

- Multi-factor authentication (MFA)
  - » All remote access (both employee and third party)
  - » All privileged user accounts, including when on premises
- Endpoint detection and response (EDR) on 100% of endpoints, including BYOD if able to access the network
- Strong backup procedures and policies

## **Additional Underwriting Standards**

- Local administrative rights not granted outside of technology/security staff
- Patching cadence, specifically for critical and high/important severity patches
- End-of-life software and compensating controls
- Security Operations Center (SOC)
  - » Carriers prefer 24/7 coverage and do not have a preference for in-house vs third-party
- Operation Technology (“OT”) Issues
  - » Segmentation of OT environment from IT environment
  - » Segmentation of OT environment from internet



04

## Questions & Answers







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