

Data breach exposes sensitive patient information in several OSF facilities

Social Security numbers, medical information might have been accessed

By BILL FRESKOS

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OSF recently confirmed that their patients personal and medical information may have been exposed in a breach involving its former electronic health record software vendor, Cerner.

According to a notification letter sent to patients of OSF Saint Clare Medical Center in Princeton, Cerner informed the hospital in September that an unauthorized third party gained access to legacy Cerner systems as early as January of this year and obtained certain data. The breach did not involve any systems managed or maintained by OSF Saint Clare.

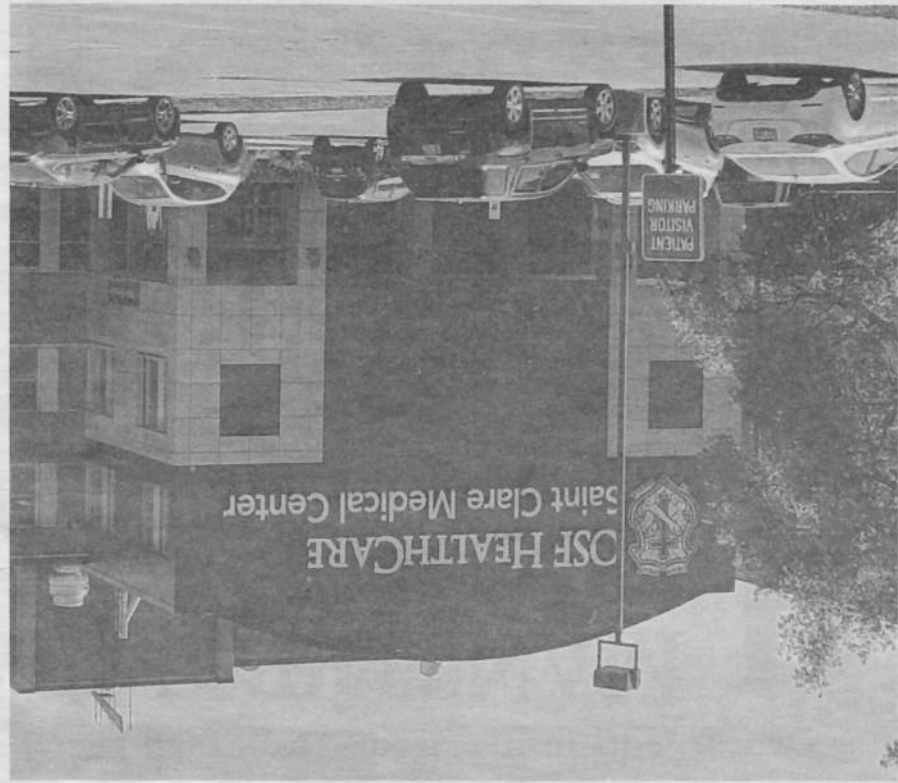
While only Saint Clare patients were notified, OSF confirmed Cerner's data breach involved multiple facilities and Princeton. For security reasons, they were unable to provide any additional details regarding their systems or contractual relationships.

Cerner initiated its incident response process after discovering the breach, secured the affected systems, engaged external cybersecurity specialists and notified police.

Cerner later told OSF that investigators asked for a delay in notifying patients and hospital customers, saying early notification could have interfered with the investigation. OSF said it is committed to do so.

In November, Cerner completed a

OSF said a cybersecurity incident involving former vendor Cerner may have exposed some patient information but did not impact hospital operations.



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data review and gave OSF a list of patients whose information may have been involved. The information potentially accessed includes patient names, Social Security numbers and information contained in medical records, like medical record numbers, physicians, diagnoses, medical systems involved numerous healthcare facilities and was not limited to just OSF Saint Clare Medical Center and the complementary identity monitoring services are being offered as a precaution.

Paul Arco, media relations coordinator for OSF HealthCare's Northern Region, said the incident on Cerner's systems involved numerous healthcare facilities and was not limited to just OSF Saint Clare Medical Center and the complementary identity monitoring services are being offered as a precaution.

OSF said it no longer uses Cerner's services. OSF said it no longer uses Cerner's services. OSF said it no longer uses Cerner's services.

recently declassified FBI files. The book provides an intimate view of King, from his classroom and pulpit work to his activism in Birmingham, Selma and Memphis. Eg began his writing career at age 16 at The Rockland County Journal News in New York. He studied journalism at Northwestern University and worked as a reporter for The New Orleans Times-Picayune, The Dallas Morning News, Chicago Magazine and The Wall Street Journal.

Mark Bazer will moderate the conversation with Eg. Bazer hosts "The Interview Show," frequently moderates events for Chicago Humanities and contributes to Chicago magazine. The program is part of the Illinois Libraries Presents-series and will be available via Zoom.

Putnam County Libraries to host author Jonathan Eg

Putnam County Libraries will present bestselling author Jonathan Eg in a virtual program at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13. Eg will discuss his Pulitzer Prize-winning biography "King: A Life," the first major biography of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. in decades and the first to include

LOCAL NEWS BRIEF