LOWERS & ASSOCIATES
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L&A IT Risk Management
Data Leakage and Privacy Protection

In recent years, the challenge to prevent and contain the loss of sensitive data has done nothing but increase for many organizations. Incident rates are on the rise, organizational liability is high, and the risk of identity and intellectual property is pervasive. Of particular concern are those businesses that acquire, process, retain, and transmit data known as *Personally Identifiable Information* (or PII).

PII represents sensitive and non-public consumer and employee data an organization possesses, and may include Social Security numbers, credit card information, insurance and driver's license numbers, or medical information. As an organization's services expand, the amount of PII and data increases, and the more likely it becomes that the organization will suffer from incidents of *data leakage* - referring to situations in which sensitive or otherwise confidential data escapes organizational infrastructures, making that data vulnerable to potential unauthorized disclosure or malicious use.

When an organization experiences a data leakage, they face a number of steps that need to be taken. They firstly need to identify the problem by gathering detailed incident information. They then need to stop the bleeding by taking immediate correction steps. They finally need to heal the wound by putting in place plans to prevent re-occurrence of the loss. And they need to do this while keeping the business running. Lowers & Associates (L&A) can offer assistance to organizations that find themselves in a data leakage situation but are unsure of what steps they need to take (or do not have the internal resources to perform them). More importantly, many organizations know that they need to assess their data loss risk, but cannot perform an extensive assessment themselves.

L&A provides many options to prevent and react to data leakage - all of which have been proven across multiple industries and environments:

- Our Loss Prevention Programs assist in identifying sensitive data, performing Business Impact Analyses, and developing data classification levels to protect data;
- Our Incident Response services can help in assembling policies and procedures to react to data leakage situations - and then testing them to ensure that they are effective;
- Our IT Risk Assessments measure the likelihood of data leakage and our Penetration Tests provide "proof of concept" for any potential breaches that may be attempted by insiders or outsiders;
- Our Investigative and Digital Forensics services can help in investigating data leakage cases once they occur, re-tracing activities that led to the release of data, identifying those responsible, and - in some cases - recovering the data.

Whether it is reactive or proactive, we can help in reducing the likelihood of a data or privacy loss or the impact if a breach should occur.