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Hall Co. Tax Commissioner's Office Takes Proactive Steps to Prevent Ransomware Attacks

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (March 26, 2024) – With the recent ransomware attack in Fulton County bringing cybersecurity to the forefront, Hall County Tax Commissioner Darla Eden wants to remind the public of the several measures in place to protect taxpayer information and keep the office's online payment and communication systems operating as safely as possible.

"With the increasing prevalence of cyber threats, Hall County has taken a proactive approach to fortify its IT infrastructure," Eden said. "Through the County's work, citizens can safely make their tax payments online without worry."

Hall County utilizes cloud-based data management with proactive and advanced cybersecurity systems that actively monitor and neutralize threats before they can impact network security. While the County maintains encrypted backup systems and performs regular, scheduled backups, Hall County has also established a state-of-the-art disaster recovery system to ensure the continuity of essential operations in the event of a cyber-incident or system failure.

"Having state-of-the-art, proactive systems in place is imperative to maintaining a secure organization; however, one of the largest threats to cybersecurity lies in employees' email inboxes," Daniel Sexton, Hall County Director of Management Information Systems, said. "We have implemented ongoing employee cybersecurity training to empower Hall County staff to recognize and respond effectively to potential threats."

In addition to employee education and behind-the-scenes software and security measures, Hall County maintains strict access control policies and multi-factor authentication in order to minimize the potential for data breaches and reduce the risk of unauthorized access.

"The Hall County Tax Office recognizes the importance of safeguarding our taxpayers' information and we appreciate the steps Hall County takes to protect this information," Eden said.

While tag renewals completed online are done through the Georgia Department of Revenue's Georgia DRIVES website, taxpayers can find many tax services available online at HallCountyTax.org.

For questions, please contact the Hall County Tax Commissioner's Office by phone at (770) 531-6950 or text at 1-833-602-8497.

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