



FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD
77 K Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD
REPORTS A CYBER ATTACK ON A CONTRACTOR
POTENTIALLY AFFECTING TSP PARTICIPANTS
*No Indication of Any Improper Use of Data***

Washington, D.C. -- The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB) announced today that a computer belonging to Serco Inc., a third party service provider, suffered a sophisticated cyber attack that resulted in the unauthorized access of the personal information of approximately 123,000 Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) participants or other recipients of TSP payments. In April of 2012, the FRTIB and Serco were informed of the unauthorized access incident by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

There is no indication that any of these data have been misused. In addition, there is no evidence that the TSP's network or its website, www.tsp.gov, were affected.

In addition to performing a forensic analysis, the FRTIB and Serco took the following steps: 1) an immediate shutdown of the compromised computer; 2) the formation of a response team that is conducting a systemwide review of all computer security procedures; and 3) enhanced information technology security.

Notification letters are being sent to all affected individuals offering them information on how to contact a call center that has been established to provide support and offer services such as credit monitoring. In addition, as a precautionary measure, the FRTIB will place alerts on the impacted TSP accounts to ensure that any account activity receives heightened scrutiny.

"We sincerely regret that this event occurred," said Greg Long, Executive Director of the FRTIB, "and we will provide assistance and support to the affected individuals through a call center and credit monitoring. We are working with Serco and other security experts to ensure that TSP data is protected and secure. We are proud of our service to our participants and beneficiaries and want to continue to earn their trust."

The FBI provided data to Serco and the FRTIB that required extensive, expert analysis in order to determine the number of people affected and the identity of the individuals who had their personal data compromised. This analysis determined that a number of files containing varying combinations of data of 123,201 individuals were accessed. The names, addresses, and Social Security numbers of 43,587 individuals were in the files. In some cases, this group of data also included financial account numbers and routing numbers. Another group of 79,614 had their Social Security number and some TSP-related information taken.

The TSP is a retirement savings plan for Federal employees; it is similar to the 401(k) plans offered by many private employers. As of April 2012, TSP assets totaled approximately \$313 billion, and retirement savings accounts were being maintained for roughly 4.5 million TSP participants. Participants include Federal civilian employees in all branches of Government, employees of the U.S. Postal Service, and members of the uniformed services. Additional information can be found at www.tsp.gov.

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