New Partnership Expands Consolidation of Cybersecurity, Legal Tech Industries

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In the olden days there was safety in numbers. In today's business world, there's safety in consolidation. Continuing the industry trend of partnering with cybersecurity companies, legal tech, IT and cloud service provider Innovative Computing Systems announced that it will link with cybersecurity firm SentinelOne to provide law firms with the company's SentinelOne Endpoint Protection Platform.

The partnership grew out of Innovative Computing Systems' need to handle an increasingly perilous security landscape in the legal world, according to Michael Kemps, CEO of Innovative Computing Systems.

"Our firm supports hundreds of law firm clients. Over the course of the last two years, we have had numerous clients infected with spyware, viruses, and most recently held hostage by ransomware terrorists," Kemps said in an interview with Legaltech News.

"We found SentinelOne through personal references, seeking a solution greater than antivirus alone, specifically targeted at ending the ransomware threat. We met with them during last year's RSA conference and proceeded with internal evaluations, partnering with some development requests, and testing the solution" he explained. "Once they received AV-Test certification in June of 2015, we made the decision to mutually proceed forward with full force."

Innovative Computing Systems was also drawn to the company because of the EPP platform's dynamic protection, a necessary security advancement in a digital world where multifaceted and constantly evolving threats can quickly bypass static defenses, Kemps added.

"Law firms and their clients are increasingly aware and concerned about cyber security. Simply installing a firewall and traditional anti-virus software is already insufficient. Going forward, firms will need to be diligent around protecting their internal environments from aggressive attacks from either internal or external sources," he explained, adding that the new platform "is a massive evolution away from antivirus software."

"Traditional AV software suites depend on signature databases in order to recognize patterns. When the slightest adaptation is made to a virus signature and redistributed, antivirus software is simply unable to recognize the new pattern, [and] zero-day malware, Web and email threats, ransomware, and other aggressive infections that encrypt files are all discovered and stopped in their tracks," explained Kemps.

The platform's "execution inspection engine monitors suspicious activities by detecting and responding to the processes. The solution's response is configurable to alert, respond, and kill the process, while requiring an extremely small footprint on each endpoint," he added.

The partnership highlights a new reality -- in the digital world, there is no separating the responsibility a law firm has to the integrity and protection of its data from the responsibility it has to its clients.

"Law firm IT departments and service providers have a duty to inform, protect, and layer effective security solutions that stay continually ahead of an exponentially expending threat landscape. This includes employing appropriate tools like SentinelOne, two-factor authentication, regular password changes, and aggressive account control and management. Ongoing and recurring engagements involving ethically hacking and validating secure law firm environments are growing in popularity. In the years to come, law firms will not simply realize that security is an increasing concern. They will finally act accordingly," said Kemps.

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