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California State Sheriffs' Association

Organization Founded by the Sheriffs in 1894

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 29, 2022

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California Sheriffs Issue Public Alert Following DOJ Data Breach

The California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA) is alarmed to learn of a data breach by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) that has made public the personal information of California's citizen concealed weapon (CCW) permit holders.

CSSA is issuing this alert to make CCW permit holders aware of the situation so they can take appropriate precautions.

"It is infuriating that people who have been complying with the law have been put at risk by this breach," said CSSA President and Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea. "California's sheriffs are very concerned about this data breach and the risk it poses to California's CCW permit holders."

CSSA will continue to engage with DOJ in an effort to ensure that the risk to CCW permit holders is mitigated and a breach of this nature does not happen again.

Every law enforcement agency in California that issues CCW permits is required by law to provide certain information about CCW permit holders to DOJ, which in turn is required to safeguard that information. The data breach was in conjunction with DOJ's launch of its "2022 Firearms Dashboard Portal." The breach included, but was not limited to, the names, ages, and addresses of individuals who hold CCW permits in California. It appears that before the breach was detected by DOJ, the information was copied and at least some portion of it was posted on the internet.

After learning of the breach, CSSA President and Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea contacted DOJ officials. During that conversation DOJ confirmed there was a data breach involving CCW permit holder information. DOJ advised it has deactivated the dashboard and is working to determine the scope of the breach. DOJ stated it would be contacting all CCW permit holders directly to advise them of the breach and will institute a program to mitigate any harm or damages to CCW holders that result from the breach.

DOJ has issued a statement regarding this situation that can be accessed here:
<https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/california-department-justice-alerts-individuals-impacted-exposure-personal>

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