

Ransomware

Ransomware is a term for malware which locks computer systems and data or “holds them hostage” against the computer user’s will and demands a penalty fine to be paid in order to unlock and use the computer system again.

Ransomware is on a major rise in 2012. Just as Citadel Reveton ransomware started deploying their path to destruction, infecting hundreds of thousands of computers in Europe, the fatal ransomware known as FBI Moneypak started making it rounds throughout North America, most notably the United States.

FBI Moneypak is ransomware that locks computer systems, alleges the computer user has been involved in illegal activity by the FBI (downloaded or distributed copyrighted material or viewed child pornography), and demands a penalty fine of \$100 or \$200 be paid to unlock the computer system within the allotted time of 72 hours by use of Moneypak cards. Moneypak is the prepaid credit cards you can purchase at Walmart or Walgreens type stores. The FBI Moneypak ransomware virus also states on the fake FBI page that you may see jail time if a fine is not paid in time.

FBI Moneypak ransomware symptoms;

- Computer system locks
- User is directed to a fraudulent FBI website (Image)
- Alert message appears “Attention! Your PC is blocked due to at least one of the reasons specified below”:
 - You have been violating Copyright and related rights Law (Video, Music,Software) and illegally using or distributing copyrighted content, thus infringing Article I, Section 8, clause 8, also known as the Copyright of the Criminal Code of United States of America. If it is PCEU Virus then this is thus infringing Article 128 of the criminal code of Great Britain.
 - The ransomware details that you have been viewing or distributing prohibited pornographic content (Child Pornography/Zoophilia). Thus violating article 202 of the Criminal Code of United States of America. Article 202 of the criminal provides for deprivation of liberty for two or twelve yours.
 - Illegal access to computer data has been initiated from your PC,or you have been. Article 210 (it is 208 for PCEU Virus) of the Criminal Code provides for a fine of up to \$100,000 and/or a deprivation of liberty for four to nine years.
 - Fines may only be paid within 72 hours after the infringement. As soon as 72 hours elapse, the possibility to pay the fine expires, and a criminal case is initiated against you automatically within the next 72 hours! (Sometimes it shows you within 2 hours or 48 hours).

Ransomware In the news <http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/latest-news/1384-citadel-malware-continues-to-deliver-reveton-ransomware-in-attempts-to-extort-money.html>

Reaction from the FBI <http://socialbarrel.com/fbi-alerts-internet-users-of-reveton-ransomware-that-locks-down-pcs/41826/>

