

**SECURITY RISK ALERT #442**

**Dateline: April 24, 2020**

Price-Langevin continues to have increased reporting levels from our client base in 2020. This year has continued with ongoing criminal events including robbery involving home invasion, substantial vandalism events, economic crime from businesses and individuals, fraud and cybercrime incidents. As part of an on-going agenda, organizations should continue the evaluation of security controls and risk potential. Increasingly violent incidents are occurring, creating elevated risk to public safety. Cybercrime involving financial fraud, banking fraud and invoice fraud continue to be key areas being targeted by criminal groups. Computer networks continue to be targeted on an expanding basis.

Over the past two months, fraudulent activities have been increasing dramatically, utilizing the emergence of the COVID19 Virus to create opportunities for criminal activity. These activities range from telemarketing and text frauds, to individuals attending at homes, offering testing services to the occupants. Our clients are encouraged to stay aware of media reports, question anything out of the ordinary, utilize a relationship based business approach and avoid entering into new ventures or procurements from organizations or individuals you have not worked with in the past.

**STAY ALERT, STAY AWARE, STAY SAFE! If it does not seem 100% right, question the situation and reach out to your friends and family for a second opinion.**

**Keep Thinking Security**

Price-Langevin continues to see incidents of commercial and residential break and enter events. These break and enters have mostly occurred at locations where no alarm system was being utilized and no security video systems were installed. In these situations, the culprits had a prolonged period within the business or residential areas and created substantial losses and damage, including the theft of property and substantial business disruption.



The lack of detection and surveillance equipment not only eliminates the deterrent value these systems provide, but also increases the time culprits will remain on site which definitively and exponentially increases loss and damage. The installation of security hardware, good lighting, security procedures and staff and family training are proven to reduce incidents. A primary concern is that staff may enter a commercial property, or family members may enter a home, unaware of criminal activity currently underway, thereby increasing the risk of a violent interaction. Alarm systems decrease the risk of this occurring and should be considered a necessary item within an effective security plan. Approaching individuals involved in criminal activity should be left to trained law enforcement personnel whenever possible.

Price-Langevin Technical Security experts are available to assist you or your business or organization with the development and implementation of an effective security plan.

Organizations and citizens should take extra precautions and be aware of any suspicious activity. Do not approach suspicious vehicles or persons and do not intervene if you see criminal activity taking place, but call 911 and provide descriptions and detail to law enforcement if safe to do so.

Please feel free to call our office at 780-490-6744 or [info@pricelangevin.com](mailto:info@pricelangevin.com) to discuss ways to minimize your risks for both personal safety and property security. We are here to assist with your security requirements.

Security Risk Alerts are provided on an on-going basis to our clients based on occurrences reported and observation evaluated by our assessment group. Organizations and individuals should continuously evaluate risk levels and implement policies, procedures and countermeasures as required to mitigate risk.