

Welcome to the CIO Hour!

October 2026

Haunted by Hackers: Cybersecurity Threats & How Associations Fight Back

Today's Panel



VILLY SAVINO

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Villy Savino is a seasoned technology executive with over 20 years of experience leading enterprise technology strategy, AI adoption, and large-scale digital transformation initiatives. She partners with executive leadership to align technology investments with business outcomes, delivering modern platforms, integrated data environments, and scalable digital experiences. Her expertise spans AI strategy, platform modernization, system integration, and building high-performing technology teams.



JAMES C. MARQUIS

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James is a seasoned senior executive with more than 30 years of experience working in technology with a wide variety of associations and nonprofits. James' work experience includes serving as CIO for a large medical association, CEO of a technology consulting organization and senior roles in product development and business consulting with for-profit and nonprofit clients. He also has designed and built multiple Internet-based business applications including Mojo Middleware™.



BRIAN SCOTT

Founder, 501CISO
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Brian has been helping organizations improve their cybersecurity risk profiles. ClearTone Consulting provides industry leading 501CISO cybersecurity leadership services to the nonprofit and association markets. Based upon over 20 years of being the CISO within a \$100M company, Brian effectively translates the complex and dynamic world of cybersecurity risk and protections into an understandable and achievable program that helps small and medium-sized organizations.

The CIO Hour: Haunted by Hackers

- Tackling the problems and questions that are on your mind with real-world technology advice
- Featuring experts in their field with decades of real-world experience
- Usually the first Thursday of every month



Visit www.theCIOHour.com for upcoming topics and events.

Ground rules...

- No question is off limits!
- If the question is too specific to a particular situation, we may defer it but are happy to talk to you offline or after the event.
- This is a safe space, but we understand if you wish to remain anonymous.
- You may claim 1 CAE credit – details will be emailed tomorrow

Agenda

- In the News – A few highlights that might interest you
- Q & A – 45 min – Discussion with our experts and taking your questions
- The CIO after Hour – 30 minutes of open mic discussion

In the News...

1. Trump says top tech firms have signed accord to 'self-police' AI development
<https://www.npr.org/2026/09/30/nx-s1-5985699/trump-self-police-ai-development>
2. Trump says AI leaders signed a 'constitution' to police themselves
<https://abcnews.com/Politics/top-ai-leaders-meet-trump-white-house-amid/story?id=136832988>
3. Anthropic's prospectus details losses, growth, and, yes, a warning that its AI could end humanity
<https://techcrunch.com/2026/09/28/anthropics-prospectus-details-losses-growth-and-yes-a-warning-that-its-ai-could-end-humanity/>
4. The turbulent AI era is here. The choices we make now are critical.
<https://www.gatesnotes.com/work/make-ai-work-for-everyone/reader/a-turbulent-ai-era-and-critical-choices-to-make>



Ven-Con 2026

- Thursday, October 29th, 2026
- Executive Conference Center, Crystal City, VA
- This year's theme: *Technical Readiness & Building Partnerships*
- Associations are making bold technology investments, and it's on all of us — vendors and consultants alike — to show up prepared, aligned, and working together.
- We are adding a track just for Association Execs to contribute as well.
- **EARLY BIRD pricing ends Monday (10/5)!**

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ven-con-2026-tickets-1992006985517?aff=oddtcreator>

Today's Topic: Haunted by Hackers

CrowdStrike 2026 Global Threat Report

- **27 sec:** Fastest eCrime breakout time on record
- **89%** increase in attacks by AI-enabled adversaries
- **42%** increase in zero-day vulnerabilities exploited prior to public disclosure
- **40%** of vulnerabilities exploited by China-nexus threat actors targeted edge devices
- **266%** increase in cloud-conscious intrusions by state-nexus threat actors



Source: <https://go.crowdstrike.com/2026-global-threat-report.html>

Prevention Tips for Cyber Security Threats

1. **Regular Updates and Patching:** Fix regular dates to update the software, hardware, and firmware so that it has the most recent patch-related vulnerability closed.
2. **Strong Authentication Practices:** Make sure multi-factor authentication is set up and the right password policy configuration is enforced to reduce the possibility of unauthorized access.
3. **Employee Training:** Organizations need to periodically sensitize workers through security training to familiarize them with phishing attacks, social engineering, and other threats in rampant supply.
4. **Data Encryption:** Sensitive data should be encrypted both at rest and in transit to help keep it secure from unauthorized access and theft.
5. **Network Security Measures:** Use firewalls, IDS, and IPS to monitor and provide security to the network traffic.
6. **Regular Backups:** Have good backup data of critical data and systems updated for fast recovery in the event of an attack through ransomware or data loss.
7. **Incident Response Plan:** Develop and exercise an [incident response](#) plan in order to effectively respond and minimize compromise.



Source: <https://www.sentinelone.com/cybersecurity-101/cybersecurity/cyber-security-threats/>

On to Your Questions...

From where you sit as an association executive, what does cybersecurity risk actually look like week to week?

Walk us through managed detection and response. What happens when something suspicious occurs at 2 a.m. on a Saturday?

Without getting into anything sensitive, what's the scenario that worries you most — and how has that shaped the way you've prepared your team?

We keep hearing that attackers are using AI to move at “machine speed.” What does that look like in practice — and what does it mean for a small team that still reviews alerts by hand?

How do you decide what to handle in-house versus what to hand off to outside partners?

For an exec who's never bought a security service before, what questions should they ask a security provider — and what are the red flags in a sales pitch?

How do you keep your board informed and engaged on cyber risk without overwhelming them?

“Cyber resilience” gets used a lot. In plain terms, what does it mean for an association, and how is it different from simply having good security tools in place?

Any last parting advice,
especially for smaller organizations...

Other Questions?



Thank you to our expert!



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501CISO
501C CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP

Brian Scott

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Final Thoughts

- Join us November 12th for **the November CIO Hour**
- An archive of this presentation and today's Webinar will be posted on theCIOHour.com in a few days.
- Any suggestions for future programs? Topics you would like to see covered? Please email us: theCIOHour@501works.com
- For CAE credit – you will receive a link via email tomorrow so you can claim your credit and receive your certificate.