



Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 23 December 2016

Top Stories

- The former director of fixed income for the New York State Common Retirement Fund and 2 representatives at separate broker-dealers were charged December 21 for their alleged roles in a \$2.5 billion pay-to-play scheme. – *U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* (See item [4](#))
- The founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of Frisco-based Texas First Financial LLC was arrested December 20 for allegedly orchestrating a Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors out of \$6 million. – *Downtown Austin Patch* (See item [5](#))
- More than 430 flights were delayed and 59 others were canceled at Los Angeles International Airport December 21 – December 22. – *ABC News* (See item [6](#))
- Community Health Plan of Washington began notifying nearly 400,000 current and former patients December 21 that their personal information, including Social Security numbers, was exposed in a data breach. – *Seattle Times; Yakima Herald-Republic* (See item [18](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *December 22, WBNS 10 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Gas leak causes explosion, massive fire in west Columbus.** A gas leak caused a fire and explosion in Columbus, Ohio, December 21, which destroyed a Domino's Pizza Inc. restaurant, knocked out power to over 550 area residents, and prompted an evacuation of the surrounding area. No major injuries were reported and Columbia Gas of Ohio crews shut off the leaking gas line. Source: <http://www.10tv.com/article/columbus-fire-evacuating-building-west-broad-due-natural-gas-leak-fire-explosion>
2. *December 21, Virginian-Pilot* – (Virginia) **Downtown Norfolk building evacuated after gas leak.** Virginia Natural Gas crews worked December 21 to repair a gas leak in Norfolk that prompted an evacuation of around 200 people from a Dominion Enterprises office building for several hours. Source: http://pilotonline.com/news/local/downtown-norfolk-building-evacuated-after-gas-leak/article_8bf38bcc-8718-5504-9e9d-22bf2e7e998e.html
3. *December 21, U.S. Department of Labor* – (North Dakota) **OSHA cites well operator, two servicing companies after one worker dies, 3 others severely injured while servicing North Dakota well.** The Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited oil well operator XTO Energy Inc. and 2 servicing companies, Most Wanted Well Service LLC and Sherwood Enterprises Inc., with 2 serious safety violations December 15 after the death of a worker in a June 2016 fire prompted an investigation of the Watford City, North Dakota well site which revealed the companies failed to provide flame retardant clothing to employees and did not maintain well control, exposing workers to fire and explosion hazards. Proposed penalties total \$24,942. Source: https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=33576

For additional stories, see items [7](#) and [28](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

Financial Services Sector

4. *December 21, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (International) **SEC charges former New York pension official and two brokers in pay-to-play scheme.** The former director of fixed income for the New York State Common Retirement Fund and 2 representatives at separate broker-dealers were charged December 21 for their alleged roles in a pay-to-play scheme where the director used his position to divert \$2.5 billion in State business to the brokers' firms in exchange for over \$100,000 worth of illicit bribes and benefits from January 2014 – February 2016. The charges allege that the scheme netted the brokers millions of dollars in commissions, and allege that the brokers provided considerable assistance to the State official in hiding the scheme from the Retirement Fund.
Source: <https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-272.html>
5. *December 20, Downtown Austin Patch* – (Texas) **Dallas man billing self as financial guru via investment seminars arrested in alleged Ponzi scheme.** The founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of Frisco-based Texas First Financial LLC was arrested December 20 for allegedly orchestrating a Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors out of \$6 million from the sale of notes, stock certificates, and investment contracts in Dallas-based StaMedia Group from 2014 to 2016 and Frisco-based TenList Inc. The executive and his sales associates allegedly raised money from StaMedia investors without disclosing that the business had negligible revenue and net income since its establishment in 2013, and reportedly concealed ongoing Federal investigations into his sale of investments.
Source: <http://patch.com/us/across-america/man-billing-himself-financial-guru-investment-seminars-arrested-alleged-ponzi>

Transportation Systems Sector

6. *December 22, ABC News* – (California) **Holiday travelers gripe as delays pile up at Los Angeles International Airport.** More than 430 flights were delayed and 59 others were canceled at Los Angeles International Airport December 21 – December 22 due to airport construction, inclement weather, and the increased number of flights and passengers.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Travel/holiday-travelers-gripe-delays-pile-los-angeles-international/story?id=44340821>
7. *December 21, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Route 5 reopened after 3,500 gallons of propane burned off.** New York State Route 5 in Lackawanna was closed for more than 10 hours December 21 while crews worked to burn off 3,500 gallons of propane stored in a tanker truck after the truck's valves were damaged during a collision with another vehicle. Officials from the State Department of Environmental Conservation stated no impacts to local air quality have been observed due to the incident.
Source: <http://buffalonews.com/2016/12/21/route-5-closed-lackawanna-crash-involving-tanker-carrying-propane/>
8. *December 21, KHOU 11 Houston* – (Texas) **Big rig falls from Highway 59, driver**

- killed.** The northbound lanes of Highway 59 in Houston were closed for more than 5 hours December 21 after a semi-truck driver lost control of the vehicle and drove off a ramp over the highway. The driver was killed.
Source: <http://www.kagstv.com/traffic/traffic-alert-vehicle-fire-shuts-down-59-eastex-freeway/376115519>
9. *December 21, Bainbridge Island Review* – (Washington) **Driver killed in crash on Highway 305.** Highway 305 on Bainbridge Island in Washington was closed in both directions for several hours December 21 following a 2-vehicle collision that killed 1 person. The crash remains under investigation.
Source: <http://www.bainbridgereview.com/news/driver-killed-in-crash-on-highway-305/>
10. *December 21, Tampa Bay News 9* – (Florida) **Man charged with DUI after three car collision in Tampa.** The northbound lanes of Dale Mabry Highway in Tampa, Florida, were closed for nearly 5 hours December 21 after a 3-vehicle collision that injured 3 people.
Source: http://www.baynews9.com/content/news/baynews9/news/article.html/content/news/articles/bn9/2016/12/21/fatal_crash_closes_d.html
11. *December 21, Reedsburg Times-Press*– (Wisconsin) **Reedsburg woman, 73, killed in Highway 33 crash.** Wisconsin Highway 33 near Reedsburg was closed for more than 3 hours December 21 following a 2-vehicle collision that killed 1 person and injured another.
Source: http://www.wiscnews.com/reedsburgtimespress/news/local/article_98f4c698-9573-594e-935e-f84272669f9d.html

Food and Agriculture Sector

12. *December 21, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Rich Products Corporation issues nationwide allergy alert on undeclared walnuts in certain ice cream cake products.** Rich Products Corporation issued a voluntary recall December 21 for roughly 6,600 cases of its ice cream cake products sold in 5 variations after the firm discovered that the ice cream cake layers provided by a third party supplier may contain undeclared walnuts. No adverse reactions have been reported and the products were sold to distributors and in-store retail bakeries nationwide.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm534213.htm>
13. *December 21, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Dieffenbach's Potato Chips Inc. issues voluntary recall for Sour Cream & Onion Kettle Chips due to possible Salmonella contamination.** Dieffenbach's Potato Chips, Inc. issued a voluntary recall December 21 for its Sour Cream & Onion Kettle Chips products sold in 2-ounce and 9-ounce packages after receiving notification from a seasoning supplier that an ingredient in the seasoning may contain traces of Salmonella. No illnesses have been reported.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm534202.htm>

14. *December 21, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (Texas) **H-E-B expands recall on raw shelled pistachios.** H-E-B Grocery Stores expanded a previous recall on its raw shelled pistachios December 20 to include its “Fireside Roasted Nut Butter” products after routine sampling by Federal personnel discovered that the products may be contaminated with Salmonella. No illnesses have been reported and the products were shipped to nine H-E-B stores in Houston, San Antonio, and Austin, Texas.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm534238.htm>
15. *December 21, U.S. Department of Agriculture* – (National) **Ruiz Food Products, Inc. recalls beef and cheese tortilla products due to possible foreign matter contamination.** Ruiz Food Products, Inc. issued a recall December 21 for about 23,544 pounds of its “Ranchero Cooked Beef & Cheese Wrapped in a Battered Flour Tortilla” products sold in 4.5-pound cases after the company received consumer complaints claiming that the products were contaminated with brittle clear plastic pieces. No injuries or adverse reactions have been reported and the products were shipped to institutions in 12 States.
Source: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/recalls-and-public-health-alerts/recall-case-archive/archive/2016/recall-119-2016-release>

Water and Wastewater Systems Sector

16. *December 21, WECT 6 Wilmington* – (North Carolina) **10,000 gallons of wastewater spills in St. James.** Brunswick County, North Carolina Public Utilities officials reported that roughly 10,000 gallons of untreated wastewater spilled in St. James December 21 after a concrete truck drove onto a low-pressure blow-off at the utility site. Officials stated that an unknown amount of wastewater reached Beaver Dam Swamp and testing will be performed to gauge the impact to the water body.
Source: <http://www.wect.com/story/34109154/10000-gallons-of-wastewater-spills-in-st-james>
17. *December 21, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Water authority issues water emergency.** The Dallastown-Yoe Water Authority in Pennsylvania issued a mandatory conservation notice for its roughly 4,000 customers in Dallastown, Yoe, and an area of York Township while crews work to locate and repair a leak in the authority’s water tanks that have caused the water levels in the tanks to decrease at a rapid rate following a malfunction at the borough water system December 21. State Department of Environmental Protection officials confirmed that the water has been and remains safe for drinking and other uses.
Source: <http://www.ydr.com/story/news/2016/12/21/water-authority-issues-water-emergency/95715716/>

Healthcare and Public Health Sector

18. *December 22, Seattle Times; Yakima Herald-Republic* – (Washington) **Data breach exposes info for 400,000 Community Health Plan members.** Community Health Plan of Washington is notifying nearly 400,000 current and former patients December 21 that their personal information, including Social Security numbers, was exposed in a

data breach after an anonymous caller notified the firm November 7 that they had discovered a vulnerability in the computer network of the company that provides the health organization technical services. Officials stated there is no evidence that the information was misused.

Source: http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/business/regional/data-breach-exposes-info-for-community-health-plan-members/article_deda2f20-df97-5c2c-8069-d892503d1424.html

19. *December 21, WTTV 4 Bloomington* – (Indiana) **Fairbanks Hospital sends notice to patients about health information privacy incident.** Officials at Fairbanks Hospital in Indianapolis announced December 21 it is notifying current and former patients that their private health information including Social Security numbers, patient names, and health history, may have been compromised after unauthorized employees were able to view the information since 2013. The hospital reported there is no evidence that the information was misused.

Source: <http://cbs4indy.com/2016/12/21/fairbanks-hospital-sends-notice-to-patients-about-health-information-privacy-incident/>

For another story, see item [20](#)

Government Facilities Sector

20. *December 21, WESH 2 Daytona Beach* – (Florida) **Suspected norovirus outbreak prompts Brevard charter school closure.** Classes at Viera Charter School in Florida were canceled December 21 after a suspected norovirus outbreak that prompted over 400 students to miss school since December 16. The school will disinfect and repaint the interior of the school before classes resume.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/article/suspected-norovirus-outbreak-prompts-brevard-school-closure/8525657>

21. *December 21, WPIX 11 New York* – (New Jersey) **Teacher, 6 students hospitalized after acid spill at NJ high school.** Students at Union High School in New Jersey were dismissed several hours early December 21 while HAZMAT crews worked to clean up an acid spill in a classroom that forced 6 students and a teacher to be hospitalized. A custodian and 19 other students were evaluated at the school.

Source: <http://pix11.com/2016/12/21/teacher-6-students-hospitalized-after-acid-spill-at-nj-high-school/>

For another story, see item [4](#)

Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report

Information Technology Sector

22. *December 21, SecurityWeek* – (International) **Rakos malware takes over embedded**

Linux devices. ESET security researchers warned that a newly observed piece of malware, dubbed Rakos is targeting embedded Linux devices via brute force Secure Shell (SSH) login attempts in order to infect the vulnerable devices and servers with an open SSH port, and use them to create a large botnet and further spread the malware. The researchers also found that Rakos is able to update its configuration file from a specific command and control (C&C) location, and provides the attacker with complete control over an impacted device as it sends information including the device's Internet Protocol (IP) address, username, and password.

Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/rakos-malware-takes-over-embedded-linux-devices>

23. *December 21, SecurityWeek* – (International) **Vulnerabilities found in Siemens Desigo PX, SIMATIC products.** Siemens released patches and workarounds to address several flaws in all versions of its SIMATIC S7-300 and S7-400 programmable logic controllers (PLCs) after researchers from Beijing Acorn Network Technology found the security holes can be exploited to obtain credentials from a PLC configuration with protection level 2, and cause a denial-of-service condition by sending maliciously crafted packets to transmission control protocol (TCP) port 80. Siemens also described a cryptographic issue in its Desigo PX product which could allow a remote attacker to reconstruct the corresponding private key.

Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/vulnerabilities-found-siemens-desigo-px-simatic-products>

24. *December 21, SecurityWeek* – (International) **Spam “hailstorms” deliver variety of threats.** Researchers from Cisco Talos warned that a new type of spam campaign, dubbed hailstorm spam sends over 75,000 Domain Name System (DNS) queries per hour and relies on the use of a large number of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses from around the world to send the queries. Cisco determined that servers in the U.S. are targeted the most by hailstorm spam campaigns compared to other countries.

Source: <http://www.securityweek.com/spam-hailstorms-deliver-variety-threats>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <http://www.it-isac.org>

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

Commercial Facilities Sector

25. *December 22, KENS 5 San Antonio* – (Texas) **Devine Walmart reopens after bomb threat.** A Walmart in Devine, Texas, was closed overnight December 21 – 22 due to a bomb threat. The store was cleared and was expected to reopen December 22.

Source: <http://www.kens5.com/news/local/devine-walmart-evacuated-due-to-possible-bomb-threat/376378391>

26. *December 21, WFMZ 69 Allentown* – (Pennsylvania) **Peddler’s Village business devastated by fire.** Two businesses were destroyed in a fire at the Peddler’s Village shopping center in Lahaska, Pennsylvania, December 20. No injuries were reported. Source: <http://www.wfmz.com/news/southeastern-pa/peddlers-village-business-devastated-by-fire/225951155>

27. *December 21, KHON 2 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Office building on Beretania evacuated due to noxious fumes.** The Hale Pawaa office and medical building in Honolulu was evacuated for over 2 hours December 21 after a strong noxious odor was reported on the seventh floor. A HAZMAT unit responded and allowed roughly 150 employees to reenter the building after finding the source of the fumes. Source: <http://khon2.com/2016/12/21/portion-of-s-beretania-closed-due-to-gas-leak-investigation/>

28. *December 21, Lower Hudson Valley Journal News* – (New York) **50 people displaced after Ossining fire.** An apartment fire in Ossining, New York, displaced 50 people, destroyed 8 apartments, and left 16 apartments without power December 21. No injuries were reported. Source: <http://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/ossining/2016/12/21/ossining-fire-kemeys-cove/95731320/>

For additional stories, see items [1](#) and [2](#)

Dams Sector

Nothing to report



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