

## Volume 6, Issue 6

June 2024

**TLP:CLEAR**

### FB-ISAIO Current Threat Level

#### FB-ISAIO Physical Threat Level: **Elevated**

FB-ISAIO has assessed the general Physical Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as “**ELEVATED**.” As per FB-ISAIO’s definitions of the Physical Threat Levels, “**ELEVATED**” means FB-ISAIO is unaware of any specific events, but there is a concern that an event is more likely than normal.

#### FB-ISAIO Cyber Threat Level: **Elevated**

FB-ISAIO has assessed the general Cyber Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as “**ELEVATED**.” As per FB-ISAIO’s definitions of the Cyber Threat Levels, “**ELEVATED**” means FB-ISAIO is unaware of any specific events, but there is a concern that an event is more likely than normal.

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# FB-ISAIO Newsletter

## Severe Weather Preparedness

May 2024 has been the [busiest severe weather May in the U.S. in 13 years!](#) Several significant severe weather events occurred as tornados and thunderstorms caused destruction and fatalities through the Midwest and throughout the month. Texas was heavily impacted when a line of storms that knocked out power to over 750,000 and damaged dozens of buildings.



May is only the beginning of the hot and severe weather season. Hurricane season kicks off in June. And wildfires are happening earlier and becoming more frequent and ferocious.

These potential threats should come as no surprise, and especially to those organizations in high-risk areas. Organizations are encouraged to consider not just their primary location, but also their supply chain and critical dependencies that may support the organization such as data centers, supply lines, or critical infrastructure that supports their operations and facilities. In addition, with summer camps soon to be in full swing, organizations are also encouraged to review the preparedness plans of all organizations that they do business with.

There are several free resources and tools available for organizations to prepare for the various severe weather events. For example, the Ready.gov site contains valuable materials to help organizations take the necessary steps to prepare for the disaster that comes next. Some ways to get started include:

- ▶ [A business impact analysis \(BIA\)](#) is the process for determining the potential impacts resulting from the interruption of time sensitive or critical business processes. This process predicts the consequences of disruption of a business function and process and gathers information needed to develop recovery strategies.
- ▶ [A risk assessment](#) is a process to identify potential hazards and analyze what could happen if a hazard occurs. Potential loss scenarios should be identified during a risk assessment. Operations may also be interrupted by the failure of a supplier of goods or services or delayed deliveries. There are many possible scenarios which should be considered.
- ▶ There are many ways to reduce the potential impact on life, property, business operations and the environment. [Risk mitigation](#) lets business owners and planners identify ways that they can prepare to face these disasters before they occur.

## FB-ISAO Advisory Board Get to Know the Board of Advisors

### Contact Us

Email

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Website

[www.faithbased-isao.org](http://www.faithbased-isao.org)

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## Not Yet a Member of FB-ISAO?

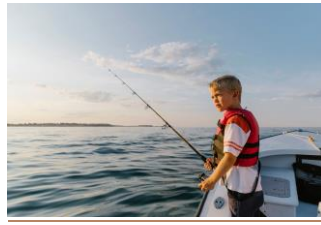
How to join...

## Not Yet on FB-ISAO Slack? You Need to Be!

Write to membership

Selected Upcoming FB-ISAO Events. Visit the [events page](#) for a complete listing.

Office Hours. <i>(Meeting Invitations sent to all members via email.)</i>	25 June 2024 at 1pm ET
<a href="#">June 2024 Community Meeting</a>	20 June at 12pm ET



## Everyone Might Not Need to Know When You're OOO (Out-of-Office)!

So, you've booked your summer 2024 vacation - right? But have you planned your time away from your work, volunteer responsibilities or other? Before you leave work behind, make sure all of your ducks are in a row, including advising managers and colleagues of your impending time off. But who really needs to know when we're gone and how much information do they need?

In the context of cybersecurity, social engineering relies on human behavior to obtain information that could be used to facilitate a cyber attack against us or our colleagues that could ultimately be used to commit fraud against or otherwise harm Faith-Based Organizations. Something as seemingly innocuous as an Out-of-Office reply could automatically provide attackers with valuable information. Malicious actors armed with this information and confirmation provided in OOO's can then craft very convincing social engineering attacks like spear phishing and financial fraud attempts such as requests for gift cards, diversion of payroll direct deposit, fake invoice payments, and wire transfer account changes.

Consider setting up one auto-reply message for external senders (even for pre-existing contacts) that excludes sensitive information, and another for internal senders that's more detailed. In addition, consider communicating pertinent details with the people who are most likely to contact you while you're away through alternative means before your planned time away. This option may negate the need to set-up OOO notifications all together.



## Spotlight: Ask Me Anything

When one considers all the challenges that House of Worship security practitioners must address, consider not going it alone! FB-ISAO is a community of force multipliers! It is quite likely that a fellow member may have come across the same challenge(s) and they may have found a solution. **Why re-invent the wheel?** The FB-ISAO Slack **#ask-me-anything** channel is where members and the FB-ISAO team can lend a hand or a head! So, please feel free to ask questions or seek assistance from other members or from the FB-ISAO team.

Writing to [membership@faithbased-isao.org](mailto:membership@faithbased-isao.org) is also an option.