

	FGCU POLICY 3.051	Responsible Unit: Information Technology Services
	Ransomware	

A. POLICY STATEMENT

In the event that Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Information Technology (IT) Resources are compromised by a Ransomware attack or any other form of digital extortion, FGCU shall not pay any ransom for the release of electronic access, files, or data.

B. REASON FOR POLICY

This Policy will provide direction to all University departments about incidents involving Ransomware that may render a user's data unusable until a ransom is paid.

C. APPLICABILITY AND/OR ACCOUNTABILITY

This Policy is applicable to all faculty, staff, and students who, on behalf of the University and in any capacity, use the University's IT Resources.

D. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. *Encryption*: The process of converting data to an unrecognizable or "encrypted" form. It is commonly used to protect sensitive information so that only authorized parties can view it.
2. *Information Technology (IT) Resource*: IT Resources are the property of FGCU and include, but are not limited to, all network-related systems; business applications; network and application accounts; administrative, academic, and library computing facilities; college-wide data, video, and voice networks; electronic mail; video and web conferencing systems; access to the Internet; voicemail, fax machines, and photocopiers; classroom audio and video equipment; computer equipment; software and operating systems; storage media; and Intranet, virtual private network (VPN), and file transfer protocol (FTP).
3. *Ransomware*: Computer malware that installs covertly on a victim's device (e.g., computer, smartphone, USB, wearable device) and then starts an Encryption and extortion attack that holds the user's data hostage until a ransom is paid.

E. PROCEDURES

Computing Devices

1. Power down your device.
2. Call the Information Technology Services (ITS) Help Desk (239-590-1188) and report the Ransomware immediately.

Authority

BOG Regulation 1.001, University Board of Trustees Powers and Duties

History of Policy

New 04/17/19; Format Changed 09/10/19

APPROVED:

*s/Michael V. Martin
Michael V. Martin, President

April 17, 2019
Date