



SUBSCRIBE

Get Unlimited WIRED Access

SUBSCRIBE

KEVIN POULSEN 07.09.09 12:00 AM

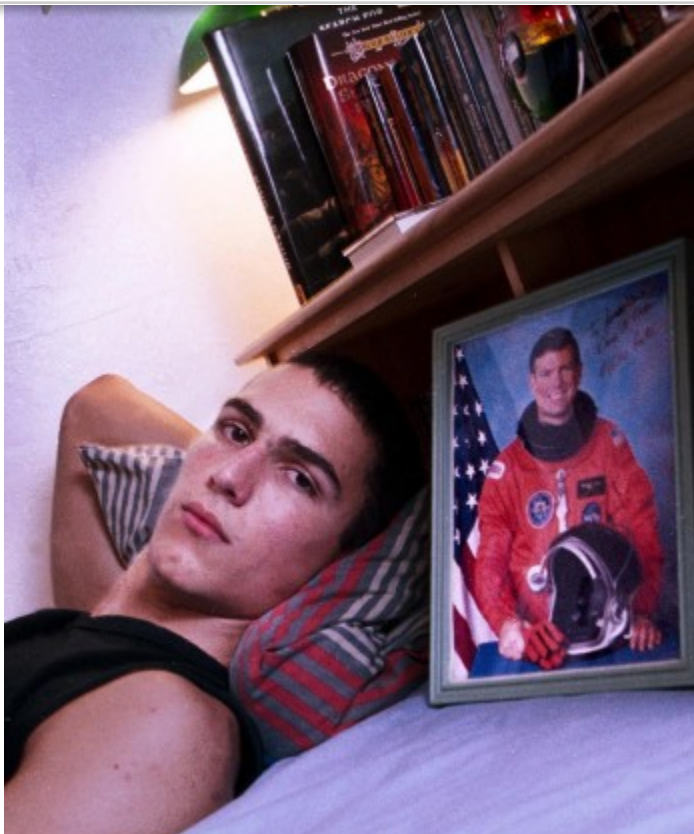
Former Teen Hacker's Suicide Linked to TJX Probe

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND

SUBSCRIBE

Share



A Miami man who achieved fame as a teenager for hacking NASA and the Pentagon took his own life last year after Secret Service agents accused him of being part of the conspiracy responsible for the largest identity theft in U.S. history, his family says.

Jonathan James, 24, was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in his home on May 18, 2008, less than two weeks after agents raided his house in connection with a hacking ring that penetrated TJX, DSW and OfficeMax, among others. In a five page suicide note, James wrote that he was innocent, but was certain federal officials would make him a scapegoat.

"I have no faith in the 'justice' system," he wrote. "Perhaps my actions today, and this letter, will send a

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

VIEW COMMENTS

SPONSORED STORIES

POWERED BY OUTBRAIN



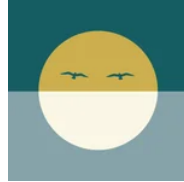
CHRIS COLIN

News at 11: Kid Reporters Tackle the Coronavirus



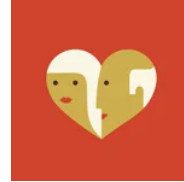
LAURIE PENNY

Live Wrong and Prosper: Covid-19 and the Future of Families



WIRED STAFF

What Will Science, Tech, and Life Look Like After...



WIRED STAFF

After the Virus: How We'll Learn, Age, Move, Listen, and...



CECILIA D'ANASTASIO

Bot Mafias Have Wreaked Havoc in *World of...

More Stories

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

TOM SIMONITE

PUBLIC HEALTH

What Minnesota's Protests Are Revealing About Covid-19 Spread

MEGAN MOLTENI

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

LOUISE MATSAKIS

EXPLAINER

The Meme-Fueled Rise of a Dangerous, Far-Right Militia

EMMA GREY ELLIS

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

IDEAS

If the Virus Slows This Summer, It May Be Time to Worry

ROXANNE KHAMSI

PHONE HOME

The Trouble With Counting Aliens

DANIEL OBERHAUS

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

Get unlimited WIRED Access

SUBSCRIBE

GET OUR NEWSLETTER

WIRED's biggest stories delivered to your inbox.

Enter your email

SUBMIT

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND



SUBSCRIBE

SUBSCRIBE | ADVERTISE | SITE MAP | PRESS CENTER | FAQ | ACCESSIBILITY HELP |
CUSTOMER CARE | CONTACT US | SEND A TIP SECURELY TO WIRED | COUPONS | NEWSLETTERS |
WIRED STAFF | JOBS | RSS

CNMN Collection

© 2020 Condé Nast. All rights reserved.

Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#) (updated 1/1/20) and [Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement](#) (updated 1/1/20). [Your California Privacy Rights](#). [Cookies Settings](#) The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of Condé Nast. [Ad Choices](#).

Get unlimited WIRED access [Subscribe](#)

[Sign In](#) EXPAND