

THE HOMELAND SECURITY ***NEWS CLIPS***

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TODAY'S EDITION

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Anonymous Hits With A Double Attack (WP)

By Hayley Tsukayama
[Washington Post](#), September 2, 2011

Anonymous came out with two high-profile attacks on Thursday afternoon. First, the group claimed credit for defacing the site of the Texas police chiefs and leaking documents and e-mails from law enforcement officials. It also claimed credit for taking down the site of the Ninth

Circuit Court of Appeals in California around 6:30 p.m. on Thursday.

The site was down less than 45 minutes before it was restored.

Some of the e-mails the group leaked earlier in the afternoon appear to be damaging, if a portion of the e-mails posted online is any indication. Many e-mails appear to include racist, lewd or homophobic language.

"These officers betrayed the trust citizens have in them by choosing be drones of the system rather than protectors of freedom and the peace of their communities," the group wrote, vowing to continue hacking despite the recent arrests of several people tied to Anonymous.

"We are doing this in solidarity with the 'Anonymous 16' PayPal LOIC defendants, accused LulzSec member Jake Davis 'Topiary', protesters arrested during #OpBart actions, Bradley Manning, Stephen Watt, and other hackers and leakers worldwide," the group said in a statement posted online.

British police arrested two more people associated with Anonymous and LulzSec Thursday in relation to denial-of-service attacks carried out by the groups, the Associated Press reported.

Group Says It Hacked Texas Law Enforcement Sites (AP)

By Juan A. Lozano
[Associated Press](#), September 2, 2011

HOUSTON -- The group known as Anonymous on Thursday appeared to briefly take over the website of a Texas police chiefs organization and claimed to have hacked into the email accounts of more than two dozen law enforcement agencies or officials in the state.

The group replaced the Texas Police Chiefs Association home page with one that listed police departments and officials whose email accounts it said had been hacked. The group posted a statement on the police website saying it was "attacking Texas law enforcement" because of the arrests of Anonymous supporters and what the group sees as harassment of immigrants by authorities in the state.

A telephone message left with the executive director of the Texas Police Chiefs Association was not immediately returned.

The claims about the hacking in Texas came as police in Britain arrested two men as part of a trans-Atlantic investigation into attacks carried about by Anonymous and Lulz Security, which is a spin-off of Anonymous. Dozens of arrests linked to the loose-knit international hacking collective have been made in recent weeks, including a cross-country FBI sting earlier this summer in which 14 alleged cybercriminals were arrested.

Anonymous said the data it posted Thursday came from the work and personal email accounts of law enforcement authorities, including police chiefs. Most of the Texas law enforcement agencies that Anonymous claimed it had hacked into were police departments in small Texas cities or school district police agencies.

About 10 of the email accounts the group said it breached were personal accounts for law enforcement officials. Some of the individuals' personal information, such as Social Security numbers and passwords for various accounts, were posted online as well.

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Some of the email accounts belonged to individuals who were retired from law enforcement.

The group said the information it posted online included classified police documents as well as lewd and racial jokes. A quick review of the large volume of data that Anonymous released Thursday revealed some of these things.

Robert Mock, one of the individuals whose personal email account was apparently breached, said he had only been made aware of the possibility earlier Thursday.

"I'm upset, as anybody would be whose account was hacked into," he said. "This wasn't my work account. Got my private information out there. I don't even know what's out there."

Anonymous listed Mock as being a lieutenant with the Houston police department, but Mock said he had left the department about four years ago. Mock said he still worked in law enforcement in the Houston area but declined to say where he was employed.

In addition to his cellphone and water bills, Anonymous also posted emails of jokes that were forwarded to Mock that made fun of Arabs and Muslims.

"I get forwarded emails like anybody else. I delete most of them. It is what it is," he said.

Another law enforcement official whose account Anonymous claimed to have hacked was Jesus Torres, an assistant chief of police in Laredo. When reached by a reporter Thursday, Torres said the call was the first he had heard about the apparent hacking and couldn't immediately confirm it had happened.

Anonymous also listed as hacked the personal email account of a manager of a Texas Department of Public Safety crime lab. Agency spokesman Tom Vinger said he had no immediate comment.

Last month, Anonymous claimed it hacked into some 70 mostly rural law enforcement websites, mainly from sheriffs' offices in Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Mississippi.

Anonymous also has claimed responsibility for attacking companies such as Visa, Mastercard and PayPal,

as well as the music industry and the Church of Scientology.

Associated Press writers Jamie Stengle and Terry Wallace in Dallas and Cassandra Vinograd in London contributed to this report.

14 'Anonymous' Defendants Plead Not Guilty To PayPal Hacking In San Jose Court (KGO)

[KGO-TV San Francisco](#), September 2, 2011

SAN JOSE, Calif. (KGO) -- On Thursday, the computer hacker group "Anonymous" is claiming that it took down the website of the federal appeals court in San Francisco. Thursday afternoon it was offline for 45 minutes. This comes as 14 members of the group pleaded one-by-one not guilty in San Jose to waging cyber attacks against PayPal.

The Department of Justice arrested them in nine states and the District of Columbia. Josh Covelli from Ohio agreed to a limited interview.

"They came in guns blazing and all this other good stuff, busted down the door, I immediately just dropped down on the floor, 180, I wasn't trying to fight nobody," said Covelli.

The 14 defendants are accused of launching an online attack on PayPal during December of last year. People linked to Anonymous were upset PayPal stop accepting donations for WikiLeaks. Supporters at the courthouse say the online attack was nothing more than an Internet protest.

"With an online companies, you don't have a physical presence that you can go protest at, you don't have a place where you can sit-in," said Anony Moose, a friend of a defendant.

The charges involve intentional damage to protected computers and conspiracy. The prosecution gave defense attorneys discovery documents in court.

"I was told today I was receiving a DVD with a lot of material on it that's only 180 pages on that disk. I understand there are thousands and thousands of pages that I will be given," said defense attorney Peter Leeming.

A CNET analyst covering the case for months says as expected the judge restricted Internet access for the defendants.

"That means that the defendants won't be able to use Twitter, the use of other social networks like Facebook and Google Plus will be monitored. They can't have knowingly have contact with other members of Anonymous," said Declan McCullagh from CNET.

Defendant Covelli says anonymous is about freedom of information and his only crime is trying to keep the government and corporations honest.

