



STATE OF WYOMING EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
EXECUTIVE ORDER

Order 2023-02

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WYOMING CYBER ASSISTANCE RESPONSE  
EFFORT TEAM

**WHEREAS**, due to the increasing involvement of technology in daily life, cybersecurity threats have become increasingly common and sophisticated, posing a significant risk to the security and well-being of Wyoming citizens and critical infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, cyber-attacks on Wyoming's government agencies, businesses, critical infrastructure, and people can result in the theft of sensitive information, the disruption of essential services, and financial losses; and

**WHEREAS**, these cyber-attacks can have severe consequences for Wyoming's economy and public safety, as well as potentially compromising national security; and

**WHEREAS**, there are sixteen Critical Infrastructure Sectors, as defined by Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21, whose systems, networks, and other assets are vital to the State of Wyoming's economy, safety, and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, any impairment or destruction of these assets, would have severe consequences for Wyoming's security, economic stability, public health, and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that Wyoming take proactive measures to prevent and respond to cybersecurity incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining cybersecurity is a shared responsibility in which everyone has a critical role to play; and

**WHEREAS**, effective prevention and responsiveness necessitates that state agencies, local governments, tribal governments, the private sector, academic institutions, and other

relevant entities exercise due diligence in mitigating cyber risks through coordinated information sharing, monitoring, and incident response; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital to marshal the resources and expertise needed to combat these threats and defend Wyoming's digital frontier, including the establishment of a Cyber Assistance Response Effort (CARE) Team;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Wyoming, I, Governor Mark Gordon, do hereby order and direct:

1. The Wyoming Cyber Assistance Response Effort (CARE) Team is hereby established.
2. The mission of the CARE Team is to protect Wyoming and its institutions by reducing the impacts of cyber-related events, including incidents and disruptions, through prevention, response, and recovery. This Executive Order provides a framework that enables the state emergency management and information technology to work seamlessly with state, local, tribal, private sector, and other relevant partners to rapidly respond to and minimize the impact of cyber events in Wyoming.
3. Members of the CARE Team shall include, but are not limited to, at least one representative from each of the following entities:
  - a. The Wyoming Office of the Chief Information Officer and Enterprise Technology Services (ETS);
  - b. The Wyoming Information Analysis Team;
  - c. The Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation's Computer Crime Team;
  - d. The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security; and
  - e. The Wyoming National Guard.
4. The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS) shall lead the CARE Team and shall determine the frequency of its meetings.

5. The CARE Team shall review cybersecurity and other technology-based threat information and assess vulnerabilities, and present their findings and recommendations for the protection of State resources to the Governor's Office.
6. The CARE Team shall continuously review, update, and implement the Wyoming Cyber Disruption Response Plan. As updates to the plan are made, the CARE Team shall submit the plan to the Governor's Office for review and approval. This plan provides a common framework for identifying and responding to technological threats that mirrors the federal government model, with corresponding responses to address threats of increasing scope and severity.
7. All Wyoming state agencies shall report known or suspected cybersecurity incidents to ETS immediately upon detection. ETS shall carry out the following functions:
  - a. Pursuant to Wyo. Stat. Ann. §§ 9-2-2901 through -2906, ETS is responsible for working with state agencies managing security risks. This includes managing information security policies and standards, working with agencies on technical matters, and ensuring enterprise projects meet security requirements.
  - b. ETS, in cooperation with CARE Team members and other subject matter experts, shall investigate all state agency reports of cybersecurity incidents.
  - c. ETS will decide on behalf of state agencies in determining the appropriate reactive measures to a cyber event and shall regularly and promptly notify the CARE Team members of such events, event details, and response efforts.
8. The CARE Team will create partnerships that help protect Wyoming Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources, as that term is defined by the United States Department of Homeland Security. This includes the following actions:
  - a. The CARE Team shall seek to work and partner with relevant federal agencies including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the Federal Bureau

of Investigation (FBI), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- b. The CARE Team shall seek to work and partner with Wyoming public and private sector Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR) partners. The CARE Team shall also work to establish a cooperative environment of information sharing between the CARE Team and public and private CIKR partners for the purpose of threat mitigation, response, and recovery.
- c. Use the forgoing directives and authorization to implement a continuous improvement process to enhance, improve and harden Wyoming and its institutions against cybersecurity threats and events.

This Executive Order is effective June 9, 2023. It shall remain in effect until such time as it is rescinded.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Wyoming this Nineth day of June, 2023.



Mark Gordon  
Governor