

New York/New Jersey Intergovernmental Audit Forum Meeting

Cyber Investigations: Audits (Shadow)

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What happens when an audit client suffers a cyber incident?



The better the question. The better the answer.
The better the world works.

Hypothetical Fact Pattern: Breach at Sure Shot Diagnostics

Sure Shot Diagnostics is a medical testing facility that allows consumers to perform blood tests and receive expert analysis. Sure Shot is a publicly traded company with labs in every US state. Consumers pay for their blood tests using credit or debit cards. Consumers fill out a medical history form prior to the test. Consumer also have the right to opt out of the sharing of their information with Sure Shot affiliated companies. These companies market a variety of medical devices and pharmaceuticals.

Sure Shot was notified by the FBI that one of their machines was communicating with a foreign IP address associated with a state sponsored hacker.

Different purpose and focus of various cyber investigations

- ▶ **PII** State Breach laws-Notification requirements. Focus on personally identifiable information.
 - ▶ <http://www.mass.gov/ago/doing-business-in-massachusetts/privacy-and-data-security/security-breaches.html#>
- ▶ **PCI** Payment Card Industry- PCI-DSS. Review of the PCI architecture using a PCI Forensic Investigator (PFI). Focus on credit cards and card processing machines.
 - ▶ https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/about_us/
- ▶ **PHI** Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights- HIPAA Privacy and security rules
 - ▶ <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/compliance-enforcement/data/enforcement-highlights/index.html>

Cyber Audit Investigations: Shadows

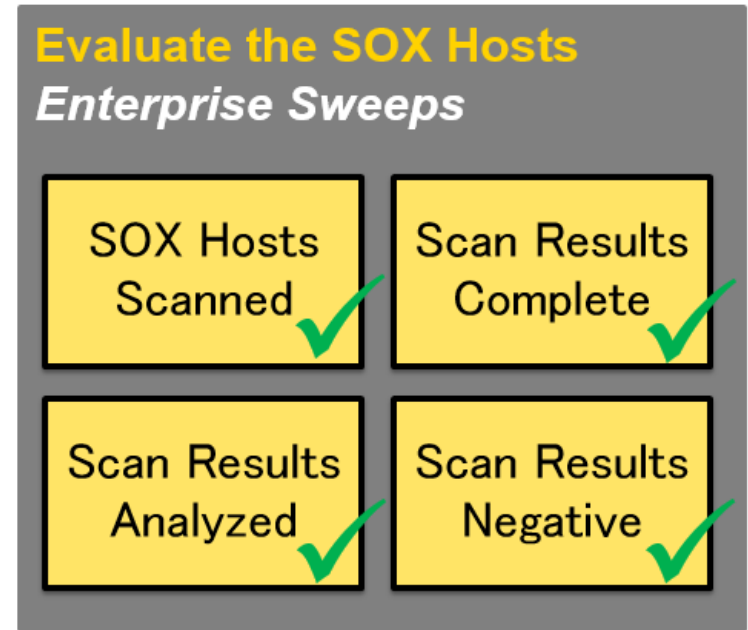
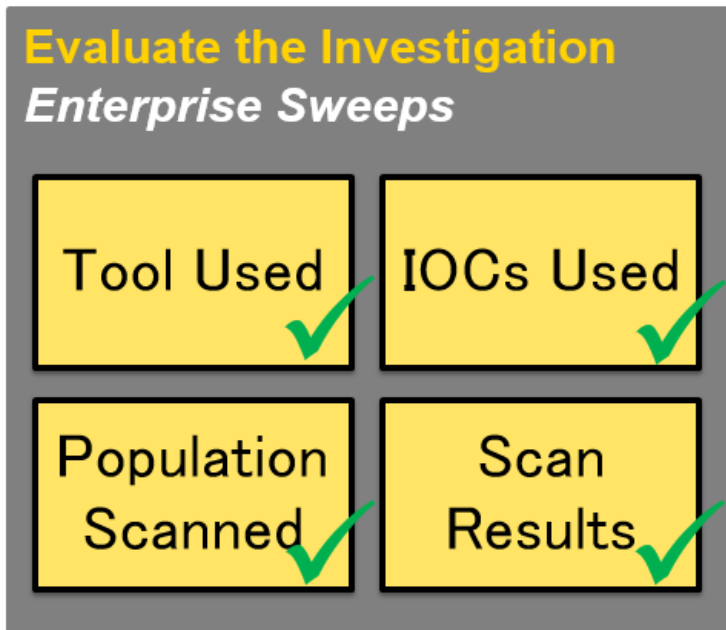
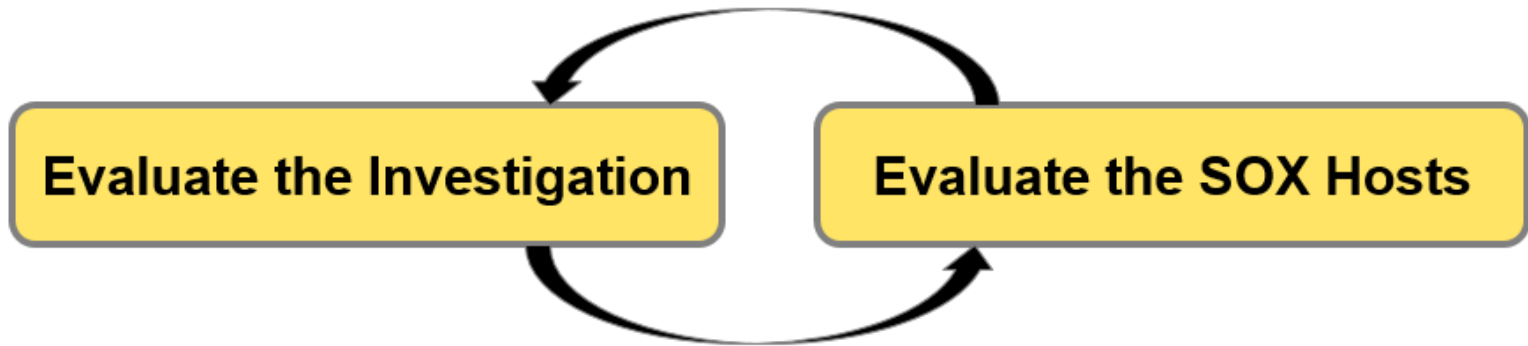
- ▶ Pertains to audit clients who have suffered an incident where we rely on the client's information systems to produce audit findings.
- ▶ Shadow investigation is designed to determine whether the incident impacted the financial systems that the auditor relies upon when issuing its audit reports.
- ▶ Inaccurate financial reporting could impact the client and their auditor.
- ▶ Cyber investigators work with the audit team as part of the audit team.



Potential Triggers for a Cyber Shadow Investigation

- ▶ Compromise of enterprise access controls that would provide the intruder access to the financial application or the system hosting that financial application.
 - ▶ Malware
 - ▶ Compromised credentials, or
 - ▶ Exploited vulnerabilities
- ▶ Compromise of enterprise access controls where there is evidence or a reasonable likelihood that the intruder compromised a windows domain administrator account.
- ▶ Misuse by a user, internal or external, of credentials permitted to access relevant financial systems.
- ▶ Any unauthorized activity related to a relevant financial system.

Methodology



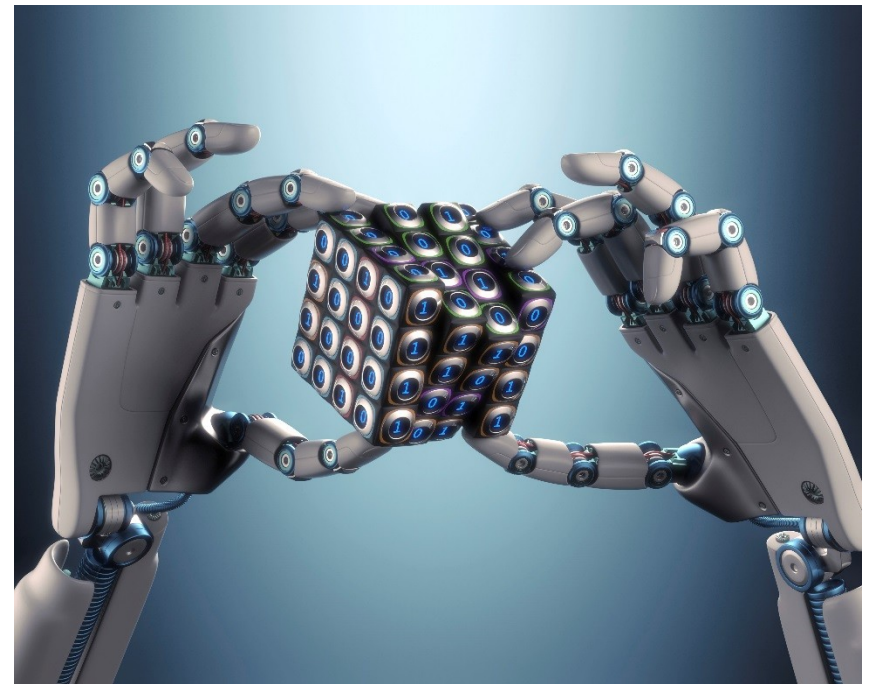
Pertinent Questions

- ▶ Who did the primary investigation?
- ▶ What level of visibility did they have into the adversary's activity:
 - ▶ Antivirus
 - ▶ Endpoint detection
 - ▶ Network logs
 - ▶ Duration of the logs
 - ▶ Host forensics
 - ▶ Backgrounds of the investigators
- ▶ What malware was used
- ▶ What credentials were used



Elements of Proof

- ▶ Different from the primary investigation.
- ▶ Investigators saying “we didn’t find anything” may not be sufficient.
- ▶ Sometimes raw log data or screenshots are required that demonstrate nothing was found.



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The Sure Shot Diagnostics Investigations

- ▶ Primary (privileged): Internal and forensic firm retained to understand the scope of the breach and ensure it is contained. Often done under privilege at the direction of counsel.
- ▶ PFI: Card brands may require a PFI if there has been a loss of credit card information. The PFI will be focused on the PCI processing infrastructure only.
- ▶ Non-privileged: Sometimes conducted to assist with PHI, PII, Audit inquiries from State Attorneys General, OCR, Auditor.
- ▶ Shadow: Audit firm will review the foregoing investigations to determine if the incident impacted the financial systems.

Questions

