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Missouri Western Admits Confidential Data Error

(KAIR) -- Missouri Western State University is sending a notice to affected individuals that a computer hard disk drive containing confidential data, including names and Social Security numbers, was temporarily out of the university's possession.

The university does not believe the information has been misused in any way.

A hard disk drive was inadvertently included in a surplus computer sold through the State of Missouri Agency for Surplus Property in December.

Before selling surplus computers, Missouri Western routinely removes and destroys hard drives.

The university has improved its surplus procedure to avoid similar incidents in the future.

The buyer discovered the hard disk drive on January 7th and contacted Missouri Western on January 8th.

At the university's request, the hard drive was returned by overnight delivery and was back in Missouri Western's possession January 9th.

The buyer assured Missouri Western that data from the hard disk drive was not copied or transmitted in any way.

Missouri Western is sending a notification letter to approximately 3,000 students recruited by the university between 2005 and 2009.

Many Signals Communications