

Crucial Point LLC

Due Diligence Consulting

9532 Liberia Ave, STE 748
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 994-0549

June 27, 2018

U.S. House of Representatives
Energy and Commerce Committee
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Blackburn and Ranking Member Doyle:

By way of background, I have spent over 30 years in the cybersecurity field, starting as an operational intelligence officer in the Navy. Early in my career I was involved in protecting intelligence community and DoD secrets from active espionage efforts and by the end of my Navy career was part of the team who stood up the DoD's first joint cybersecurity organization, the Joint Task Force for Computer Network Defense (the forerunner to today's Cyber Command). As a pioneer in cyber threat intelligence I worked across the entire intelligence community to establish models for assessing threats. After retirement from the Navy I continued to work in cybersecurity, and also served again in government as the CTO of the Defense Intelligence Agency. For the last 10 years I have been active in industry, conducting security assessments and helping companies raise their security posture. I publish two widely read websites that examine aspects of the cyber security (CTOvision.com and ThreatBrief.com), and published a book on this discipline (The Cyber Threat).

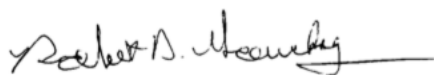
Like many others in the community I have been concerned with the impact of EU regulations on a key element of defensive information needed by network operators and enterprises and those that defend them from criminal elements. I know you are tracking the issues of WHOIS data closely and that you realize the importance of the publicly available information in WHOIS. I have been pleased to see that you are leading action in helping mitigate overly broad interpretations of the EU's GDPR, which is causing some domain name registrars and registries to shut down public access to the full range of WHOIS data.

Please do all you can to help ensure WHOIS registration data is publicly available in order to help protect all good people and good enterprises from online criminals.

And let me know please if I can be of any assistance in this or any other technical matter.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you on this important matter.

Very Truly Yours,



Bob Gourley
Founder, Crucial Point and Publisher, CTOvision.com and ThreatBrief.com