Working With Cybersecurity Researchers

Beau Woods
Atlantic Council Cyber Safety Innovation Fellow
I Am The Cavalry (.org) Leader
What do cybersecurity researchers do?
Who are cybersecurity researchers?
Five Motivations of Security Researchers

- Protect
- Puzzle
- Pride/Prestige
- Profit/Payment
- Protest/Patriot

https://iamthecavalry.org/motivations
Who invites cybersecurity researchers to report vulnerabilities?
What federal laws constrain good faith cybersecurity research?
CFAA Rules

• Primary tool for prosecuting computer crime

• US Department of Justice memo clarifies *intent* is critical in deciding whether to prosecute.
DMCA Rules

• Intended to fight counterfeiting of DVDs
• Makes illegal circumvention of a technical protection mechanism (TPM) to access copyrighted works
DMCA Exemptions

• “Solely for good-faith security research”
• “On a lawfully acquired device”
• “With the authorization of the owner”
• Conducted in an environment “designed to avoid any harm to individuals or the public”

• US DOJ in favor of exemptions:
  “the DMCA was not created to protect [voting machines], and is ill-suited to do so.”
Who has questions?

Beau Woods
@beauwoods
beauwoods@gmail.com

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