

	<b>Florida Gulf Coast University</b> <b>Policy Manual</b>	<b>Policy: 3.051</b>
	<b>Ransomware</b>	<b>Responsible Office:</b> <b>Information Technology</b> <b>Services</b>

## A. POLICY STATEMENT

In the event that Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) Information Technology (IT) Resources are compromised by a ransomware attack or any other form of digital extortion, FGCU shall not pay any ransom for the release of electronic access, files, or data.

## B. REASON FOR POLICY

This Policy will provide direction to all University departments about incidents involving ransomware that may render a user's data unusable until a ransom is paid.

## C. APPLICABILITY AND/OR ACCOUNTABILITY

This Policy is applicable to all faculty, staff, and students who, on behalf of the University and in any capacity, use the University's IT Resources.

## D. DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. *Encryption*: The process of converting data to an unrecognizable or "encrypted" form. It is commonly used to protect sensitive information so that only authorized parties can view it.
2. *Information Technology (IT) Resource*: IT Resources are the property of FGCU and include, but are not limited to all network-related systems; business applications; network and application accounts; administrative, academic, and library computing facilities; college-wide data, video, and voice networks; electronic mail; video and web conferencing systems; access to the Internet; voicemail, fax machines, and photocopiers; classroom audio and video equipment; computer equipment; software and operating systems; storage media; and Intranet, virtual private network (VPN), and file transfer protocol (FTP).
3. *Ransomware*: Computer malware that installs covertly on a victim's device (e.g., computer, smartphone, USB, wearable device) and then starts an encryption and extortion attack that holds the user's data hostage until a ransom is paid.

## **E. PROCEDURES**

### Computing Devices

1. Power down your device.
2. Call the ITS Help Desk (239-590-1188) and report the Ransomware immediately.

#### *Specific Authority*

*Board of Governors Regulation 1.001*

#### *History of Policy*

*New 04/17/19*

#### **APPROVED:**

\*s/Michael V. Martin  
Michael V. Martin, President

April 17, 2019  
Date