Bond Case Briefs

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Cybersecurity - Two-Part Webinar Series for NFMA Members

Municipal Cybersecurity Risks

NFMA and MAGNY jointly announce a two-part series of webinars on Municipal Cybersecurity Risks and the unique challenges presented by current circumstances. The first panel hosted by NFMA on April 23 at 12:00 PM EDT, will consist of public finance professionals focusing on and identifying the credit factors and disclosure issues as they relate to cybersecurity risks. On May 6 at 12:00 PM EDT, MAGNY will conduct a follow-up panel from the inside perspectives of cyber security professionals in the field who have worked in or consulted with governments. They will provide a first-hand view of cyber security threats and mitigation and what questions analysts should be asking.

Both webinars are offered to all members of the NFMA as a benefit of membership.

April 23 - 12:00 PM EDT - NFMA on GoToMeetings

Cybersecurity: An Emerging Risk That Has Arrived

Even in this time of social distancing and COVID-19, cybersecurity remains a credit risk. And, now that many of us in the NFMA are working from home, new risks have arisen – Zoom-bombing, anyone? In 2019, the number, types and cost of attacks have risen greatly. Throughout the municipal sector, bond issuers have experienced, ransomware, distributed denial of service attacks, business email compromise (BEC) and even deep fake scams. One mayor under attack offered \$400,000 as the 'going rate' for ransomware. In a coordinated attack, 23 Texas municipalities were simultaneously shut down. And BEC attacks in late 2019 were getting \$2 million an attack from a number of institutions. The rating agencies have begun to change ratings citing cyber breeches as a contributing cause. Please join these panelists in a lively discussion on the evolving sophistication of cybercriminals; the regulatory and market needs for disclosure; lessons learned from attack experiences; the municipal advisors take on preparation and notification; and what the rating agencies are asking in management meetings.

Moderator: Geoffrey Buswick, Managing Director, S&P Global Ratings

Panelists: Gil Southwell, Vice President, Wells Capital Management; Marti Shew, Director, Hilltop Securities; Lindsay Nickle, Partner, Lewis Brisbois

Register for Cybersecurity: An Emerging Risk That Has Arrived on Apr 23, 2020 12:00 PM EDT here.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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May 6 - 12:00 PM EDT - MAGNY on Zoom

Cybersecurity Professionals on Municipal Cybersecurity Risks

Hear the inside perspectives of cybersecurity professionals in the field who have worked in or consulted with governments. They will provide a first-hand view of municipal cybersecurity threats and mitigation efforts. They will identify and discuss the major threats and issues, including the unique security challenges presented by the COVID-19 disruptions, what type of entities are most vulnerable, and what questions to ask to ascertain if a borrower has the capabilities, resources and processes in place to protect itself from cyber-attacks or recover from one, if compromised.

Moderator: Tiffany Tribbett, Director, S&P Global Ratings

Panelists: David Weinstein, Former CTO, CISO and Cybersecurity Advisor, State of New Jersey; Vikas Bansai, Cyber Security Principal, Deloitte Advisory with municipal and higher education client base; Leroy Terrelonge, Assistant Vice President and Cyber Risk Analyst, Moody's, Former Director of Intelligence and Operations at Flashpoint (cybersecurity firm) and Analyst at the National Security Agency.

Register for the Cyber Security Professionals on Municipal Cybersecurity Risks on May 6, 2020 12:00 PM EDT here.

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