



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Employee Data Recovered Following Inadvertent Release**

Tooele County officials recovered sensitive employee personal identifying information yesterday, March 27, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. with the assistance of the Utah Attorney General's Office and the cooperation of a former employee.

Tooele County takes the responsibility of protecting personal information very seriously. Officials are confident that this was an isolated incident, and that all of the information involved is now secure. County officials realize the anxiety this may cause the affected employees and will provide them information to help them through this situation.

On March 12, 2013 Tooele County terminated employment of Mr. Shane Brozovich, a heavy equipment operator in the Roads Department. The reason for termination is protected under personnel privacy laws. After his termination, Brozovich filed a GRAMA request to obtain a copy of his personnel file from the Human Resource Department.

The Human Resource department scanned the personnel file, copied it to a CD and provided it to Brozovich on March 18, 2013. After further review, the Human Resource Department discovered that two insurance documents, one from 1996 and one from 1997, containing names and social security numbers of current and former employees were inadvertently included in the Brozovich personnel file.

The County immediately contacted Brozovich asking him to return the disc. The County Attorney informed him that "possession of these documents with the knowledge that [he is] not entitled to the possession of them" is a felony offense punishable by up to five years in prison. The Tooele County Attorney contacted the state Attorney General's office to advise them of the situation and request assistance in negotiating a return of the information.

(more)

An investigator from the Attorney General's office made contact with Brozovich by telephone and advised him that the disk needed to be returned to the County or turned over to the Attorney General's office as soon as possible. After speaking with the investigator from the Attorney General's office, Brozovich immediately contacted the County Attorney and returned the disc.

The County Commission is in the process of contacting each of the employees affected by the information release through a personal letter. A copy of that letter is attached. It explains (1) how the information was released, (2) that the information has been recovered, (3) provides information on additional measures that individuals can take to protect their social security number and (4) provides information on what to do if individuals have evidence of actual or attempted identity theft.

Tooele County is appreciative of both the assistance provided by the Attorney General's office and the cooperation of Mr. Brozovich in the recovery of this sensitive information.

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