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BRIDGING THE **CYBERSECURITY GAP** IN THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

Like a number of other cities in the United States, the City of Bridgeport, West Virginia, was also the victim of a damaging ransomware attack in 2021 that underscored the vulnerabilities municipalities face when their networks are not sufficiently protected.

However, the City of Bridgeport soon took action to strengthen its cybersecurity posture under the new Director of IT, Jesse Chaney. Working with a limited budget and resources, Jesse met with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and applied for federal grants to help bolster the City of Bridgeport's network security. He also partnered with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to embark on a whole network assessment and to establish a baseline for the City of Bridgeport's security steps.

With few resources, Jesse zeroed in on two primary areas: **multi-factor authentication (MFA)** to validate and identify people accessing the City of Bridgeport network and **monitoring and controlling access** within the system to gain insights into user and device activities.

PASSING THE POLICE TEST IN THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

RAPID, SECURE, **AND NO USER TRAINING NEEDED**



Matrix is a cybersecurity platform that offers an effective and affordable solution for blocking unauthorized access to cloud or on-premises applications. It provides an additional layer of protection by enforcing access policy controls and enabling real-time network management, crucial components in the fight against ransomware, malware and other threats.

But in the City of Bridgeport, the proof was in the testing, and Jesse picked the city's most challenging use case: the City of Bridgeport Police Department. Matrix performed beyond expectations. Responding to 911 calls can be time-sensitive, and police officers typically go through a protracted process of reauthentication, recertification, and validation on their police car laptops. Not with Matrix.

During the tests, **everything connected in under 10 seconds**. Other solutions lagged at 1 to 2 minutes. Even more impressive, **five steps were eliminated from the process** and there was no need for user training. It was a major "aha" moment for the City of Bridgeport.

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JESSE CHANEY SHARED HIS THOUGHTS ON THE SUCCESSFUL TEST

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Matrix is very beneficial for our patrolmen, as you can imagine trying to type and navigate a PC while on the road can be tricky. Time is very critical when they are on a call, Matrix provides us the ability to cut out those connection, authentication and authorization steps while maintaining a secure connection to our network.” and went on to say “I know there are other cities, counties and municipalities, not to mention state-wide needs that would greatly benefit from using VirnetX Matrix, not to mention, saving time, budget and resources with far better protection”

-JESSE CHANEY

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As we touched on earlier, cities are often at risk because of insufficient resources and budgets. In the City of Bridgeport, however, a solution was identified that not only optimized cybersecurity but also advanced efficiency with no user training required.

Matrix had passed the test with flying colors, and VirnetX soon announced the deployment of Matrix by the City of Bridgeport. Matrix proved to be a robust, economical solution that could supplant multiple applications, improve security, and simplify system management.

CONTACT



Cyber-Security with Integrity & Meaningful Results

(480) 767-7660

steve.bouck@solutionsynergy.net





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For 100 users; based on actual customer deployment

USE CASE	OLD WAY	MATRIX
Remote access	Cisco VPN \$4500 *with network vulnerability	\$2000 Matrix secures virtual network perimeter.
File Access	SFTP \$250.00 per month for 25 users and 3TB of space - or \$1000 / mo for 100 users *Paid service to eliminate IT having to manage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost Matrix is application agnostic. Customer able to use free windows file access but with increased security posture, policy access management and no required user training nor administrative overhead.
Remote Administrative Access; which complies with CISA new directive Binding Operational Directive 23-02 to support zero-trust framework.	Legacy approaches are very expensive, complex to both set up and manage using internal network and bastion/jumpbox technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost Matrix secures and tracks internal access. Prevents lateral access with integrated firewall technology Complies with CISA new directive Binding Operational Directive 23-02
LAN - Mobile Access	NetMotion - \$9.95 per device per month. @2 devices per 100 users, \$24,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional cost Layer 3 (network) Integrated user / device authentication that is agnostic to the physical transport. Seamlessly migrate from terrestrial LAN to cellular WAN

The above competitive solution for 100 users per year would be*

VPN	\$ 4500.00
Firewall	\$ 3000.00
TLS/SSL	\$ 259.00
SFTP	\$ 1000.00
NetMotion (assuming 2 devices / user)	\$23,880.00
Additional technician	\$45,000.00
VirnetX One Matrix: (Contact Solution Synergy for special West Virginia pricing) With: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased security posture No rip 'n replace Immediate access and use No training or roll out overhead 	\$77,639.00 Without: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removing public attack surface Providing internal network insight and control Prevent lateral access

*pricing referenced are MSRP for June 2023

