

Press Release No. 2014-03

Thursday April 24, 2014

Just after 10:00am Thursday, April 24th the main website for the Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission was defaced by an Iranian hacking group called the Ashiyane Digital Security Team. This group of approximately thirty members is the oldest known group of hackers in Iran which was founded in 2002 by Behrooz Kamalian.

The defacing only affected one of the servers that supports the GGT&CFC website and was isolated to the home page of ethics.ga.gov on a single server and had no impact on the Efiling website. The GGT&CFC technical staff quickly deactivated the website on that server and identified and removed the code that was causing the issue. No other agency sites were compromised or affected. The code used to deface the website is currently being analyzed to learn as much as possible about the origin and intent of the defacing.