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Consent Notice

TITLE OF THE STUDY
Assessing Cybersecurity Knowledge with Tabletop Exercises

INVESTIGATOR
David Schuster, Ph.D.

You must be at least 18 years old to participate in this study.

PURPOSE
The purpose of this research is to identify cognitive outcomes associated with successful threat response in computer network defense and leverage those outcomes to improve training for cyber security professionals. Cyber security professionals investigate network activity to find, identify, and respond to anomalies. This research aims to better understand proficiency in cybersecurity careers.

PROCEDURES
There are two parts to this study. First, you will be sent a link to a Qualtrics survey containing a demographic questionnaire and a preliminary survey. In the preliminary survey, you will be asked to describe your experience with cybersecurity and discuss the elementary tasks and goals of your involvement in the cybersecurity field. This stage will take less than 30 minutes. In the second stage, the researchers will request a remote interview through a password-protected Zoom meeting. During the interview, you will be asked to critique how a cybersecurity professional investigates a ransomware incident. The participation time for the interview is approximately 90 minutes.

POTENTIAL RISKS
There are no known risks to participating in this study beyond those risks one would encounter using a computer.

AUDIO RECORDING PROCEDURE
In the event that two researchers are unavailable to take notes, audio during the interview will be recorded through Zoom and saved locally (not uploaded to Zoom cloud) and destroyed once our researchers have manually transcribed the audio.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS
We cannot promise any direct benefits to you from your participation.

COMPENSATION
There is no compensation for this study.

CONFIDENTIALITY
All data will be kept confidential and de-identified. If you have e-mailed the research team, then your name and e-mail address is known to the research team but will never be associated with your data. We will not publish anything that could link your identity to participation in this study. We will strive to publish as little personal information as needed to describe the research results, but if anecdotal data is made public, it will be done so under either a pseudonym or a participant number. Further, non-identifiable data may be shared for use in future research, published, or reported to the research sponsor, the National Science Foundation.

PARTICIPANT RIGHTS
Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You can refuse to participate in the entire study or any part of the study without any negative effect on your relations with San José State University. You also have the right to skip any questions you do not wish to answer. This consent form is not a contract. It is a written explanation of what will happen during the study if you decide to participate. You will not waive any rights if you choose not to participate, and there is no penalty for stopping your participation in the study.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS
You are encouraged to ask questions at any time before, during, and after this study.

- For further information about the study, please contact David Schuster, Ph.D., at david.schuster@sjsu.edu.
- Complaints about the research may be presented to Clifton Oyamot, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Psychology, at clifton.oyamot@sjsu.edu or (408) 924-5650.
- Questions about your rights or research-related injuries may be presented to Dr. Richard Mocarski, Associate Vice President of the Office of Research, San Jose State University, at (408) 408-924-2488.

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE

Your completion of the study indicates your willingness to participate. Please keep this document for your records.