

FS-ISAC Talking Points Concerning Today's DDoS Attacks

Threat actors, who had been associated with the cyber attacks on financial institutions in September and October, posted information online this week indicating their intent to recommence attacks against five financial institutions this week. They also state: "In [this] new phase, the wideness and the number of attacks will increase explicitly; and offenders and subsequently their governmental supporters will not be able to imagine and forecast the widespread and greatness of these attacks."

The September and October activities were characterized by DDoS attacks directed at financial institution public websites. In some cases, access to online banking functions was degraded for brief periods of time but no customer information, customer assets or operational functions of the institutions were seriously affected by these activities.

Targeted institutions have been working together with members of the security community and with government partners to help defend against the attacks. Information pertaining to tactics and techniques has been shared among these parties and with the broader FS-ISAC membership. FS-ISAC has provided best practices to its members to mitigate risk from these types of attacks.

Financial institutions should ensure they have reviewed their Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) detection and mitigation plans, as well as recent threat intelligence shared by and through the FS-ISAC.

FS-ISAC is working with its members, its partners, and government agencies to monitor this threat, share information, and support members under attack.