

2006/SOM1/ECSG/SYM/009

Agenda Item: 7

An Art of Balance: e-Crime Investigation vs. Privacy Protection

Purpose: Information Submitted by: Hong Kong



APEC Symposium on Information
Privacy Protection in E-Government
and E-Commerce
Ha Noi, Viet Nam
20-22 February 2006

An Art of Balance - e-Crime Investigation vs. Privacy Protection

YU Yin-ching Woman Chief Inspector of Police Hong Kong Police Force



Agenda

- Related Privacy legislation in Hong Kong
- e-Crime Investigation
- The Need of Partnership
- Conclusions



Legislation

Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, Cap
 486 Laws of Hong Kong

• The Ordinance enacted since December 1996.



Objectives

- Protecting the privacy interests of living individuals in relation to personal data.
- Enabling free flow of personal data to Hong Kong from restrictions by countries that already have data protection laws.



Interpretations

- "Personal data" means any data-
- (a) relating directly or indirectly to a living individual;
- (b) from which it is practicable for the identity of the individual to be directly or indirectly ascertained;
- (c) in a form in which access to or processing of the data is practicable;



Principle 1 -- Purpose and manner of collection.

 This provides for the lawful and fair collection of personal data and sets out the information a data user must give to a data subject when collecting personal data from that subject.



Principle 2 -- Accuracy and duration of retention.

 This provides that personal data should be accurate, up-to-date and kept no longer than necessary.



Principle 3 -- Use of personal data.

 This provides that unless the data subject gives consent otherwise personal data should be used for the purposes for which they were collected or a directly related purpose.



Principle 4 -- Security of personal data.

This requires appropriate security
measures to be applied to personal data
(including data in a form in which
access to or processing of the data is
not practicable).



Principle 5 -- Information to be generally available.

 This provides for openness by data users about the kinds of personal data they hold and the main purposes for which personal data are used.



Principle 6 -- Access to personal data.

 This provides for data subjects to have rights of access to and correction of their personal data.



Exemption

Sec 58 Cap 486, Personal Data (Privacy Ordinance)

- (a) the prevention or detection of crime;
- (b) the apprehension, prosecution or detention of offenders;
- (c) taxation purposes;
- (d) the prevention, preclusion or remedying of unlawful or seriously improper conduct, or dishonesty or malpractice, by persons...etc.



e-Crime Investigation

- IP addresses
- Transaction Log
- Communication Log
- Account Subscriber Details
- Communication Content (e.g. email, ICQ...)



IP address / Domain name

- Open source information (Such as APNIC, ARIN, checkdomain.com...)
- DOS command (ping, netstat, tracert.....)
- Software (visual route, smartwhois...).



e-Crime Characteristics

- Absence of Physical Borders
- Time Critical
- Digital Evidence
- Multiple Stakeholders



Acquisition of Personal Data

• Exemption under Section 58 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance

Search Warrant



Sharing of Personal Data

 Must be in compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance

• Sharing of "shared" Personal Data must be explicitly authorised by the original sharer or the data owner



Importance of Partners

 Local / Overseas Law Enforcement Agencies

• Industry (e.g. ISPs; Network Administrators)

Privacy Regulators



An Art of Balance

• Identity Theft is one of biggest and Most Serious Crime over the Internet

• Enabling LEA to prevent and detect e-Crime actually help us to help you.



Our Vision

• To Ensure Hong Kong Remaining One of the Safest and Most Stable Societies in the World....and

This include the physical and cyber space



Thank You

