

Story  
Inbox

jordanbloom@pm.me  
3:57 PM (7 hours ago)  
to me

Brian Krebs,

I understand you're writing another story about me. Is there anything you'd like to ask me directly for this one, since you didn't for the last?

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
4:06 PM (7 hours ago)  
to jordanbloom

Hi Jordan,

Yes. I would very much like to speak with you. Is there a phone number I can reach you at? If you would prefer, we can speak via Signal.

Also, is there a way I can verify that I am indeed speaking to Jordan Bloom?

Thanks,

Bk

--

Brian Krebs  
KrebsOnSecurity.com  
202-657-5765

jordanbloom@pm.me  
4:09 PM (7 hours ago)  
to me

I am driving for the next ~2.5 hours. Is email communication an issue and what's your deadline?

I can provide verification at that time. What form?

----- Original Message -----

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
4:13 PM (7 hours ago)  
to jordanbloom

Are you still using any of the older phone numbers or emails you used 4-5 years ago? Responding on one of those might work.

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
4:24 PM (6 hours ago)  
to jordanbloom

Email is fine. But I do need to verify you are who you say you are.

Basically, I'd like to know if the RCMP, AshleyMadison or any authority in Canada or elsewhere ever questioned you in connection with the Ashley Madison hack of 2015?

The data that I've dug up from Biderman's emails suggest you and Mr Malek joined at around the same time and left around the same time, both citing health reasons. When I search on a nickname that appears to have been used by your prior email accounts (AgentJags) I find email addresses connected to Mr Malek as well (Jags).

Did Mr. Malek work with you after leaving Ashley Madison? Or before joining AM? Do you know how I can get in touch with Mr. Malek?

What were the terms of Defiant Tech's settlement with the Canadian authorities over LeakedSource? I assume there was some disgorgement of profit or fine or something (was there?), but it's not clear to me what punishment you suffered as a result of the settlement.

What are you doing these days?

That's all for now. Thanks in advance.

Bk

jordanbloom@pm.me  
4:49 PM (6 hours ago)  
to me

Which email addresses do you know belong to me? I largely stopped using unencrypted email after learning about the privacy implications but I should be able to access one or more. 4-5 years ago I was only using this one. You would have to go back further.

I see your other email and will respond when I can.

----- Original Message -----

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
4:51 PM (6 hours ago)  
to jordanbloom

How about ownagegaming1@gmail.com? Or korxicewarrior@hotmail.com. Or 4167998841?

Jordan  
7:14 PM (3 hours ago)  
to me

I have access to ownagegaming1@gmail.com.

Send me a 6-10 digit number and I'll repeat it back to you here.

brian krebs  
7:15 PM (3 hours ago)  
ok sent

Jordan  
7:17 PM (3 hours ago)  
to me

35661298

I am closing that session and I suspect my last login for that email was long before covid so it shouldn't be used for communication without provocation.

Jordan  
7:32 PM (3 hours ago)  
to me

Assuming you are happy with your 2FA number:  
Since there's no real stopping you from blasting my name out there (again?), I am happy to write you a response on the condition you agree to publish the contents of our messages in this email thread in full unless otherwise directly specified. I'm aware of various instances where journalists use creative editing and want no part of that aspect of your field of work since I already know you're aiming for a negative publicity article.

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
7:47 PM (3 hours ago)  
to Jordan

Yes, thank you.

I am happy to include the entirety of your response in my story, if that is your wish.

Jordan  
8:12 PM (3 hours ago)  
to me

It is my wish provided you plan to include any identifiable references to me at all.

I will have a response soon.

brian krebs  
8:14 PM (3 hours ago)  
Sounds good. Thanks.

Jordan  
8:46 PM (2 hours ago)  
to me

I have my responses ready but after learning a bit more about the legal system I should further clarify my condition (wish) before providing them.  
I am happy to write you a response on the condition you agree to prominently publish the contents of our messages in this email thread in full on the same page as the article, unless otherwise directly specified

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
8:48 PM (2 hours ago)  
to Jordan

Hi Jordan,

I don't know that I can satisfy your request for prominence, but you have my word that I will include a copy of this entire thread.

Best,

Bk

Jordan  
8:55 PM (2 hours ago)  
to me

What is your concern with prominence? My intention is to have my responses be visible including for example but not limited to: in the same colour and size font as the rest of your article, on the same page and not hidden by hyper link, etc.

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
9:01 PM (2 hours ago)  
to Jordan

Jordan,

What you are asking for is editorial control over what I publish. I'm unwilling to relinquish that. Without having some idea as to what you're going to say in response, how long or coherent it will be, or whether the entire thing will be just a commercial for your latest gig, I'm not going to agree to publish it prominently. I'm not saying I expect that from you, but given what you're asking I'm sure you can see my position.

Bk

Jordan  
9:12 PM (2 hours ago)  
to me

I can help with that.  
My current draft is approximately ~4,100 characters subject to anything else I think of adding or removing with nothing commercial or offensive. My longest response is ~2,100 characters for the Defiant Tech INC question which provided a factual summary of events after the January 2018 news release. No reasonable person would find anything I've written objectionable, no journalist for any major publication would have any issue with any content I intend to say. I can appreciate you not wanting to commit to blind prominence but assuming what I said above is mostly accurate to a reasonable person it should be agreeable.  
You may of course have followup questions to include beyond these.

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
9:20 PM (1 hour ago)  
to Jordan

I'm not agreeing to publishing such lengthy responses in the body of the story. I have already agreed to publish it in full, and that is a fair compromise Imho.

Please send me what responses you have written. I will read and consider them carefully.

Thank you

Bk

Jordan  
9:42 PM (1 hour ago)  
to me

You are ultimately asking about events from 5-8 years ago. My responses are below.

Email is fine. But I do need to verify you are who you say you are.

Basically, I'd like to know if the RCMP, AshleyMadison or any authority in Canada or elsewhere ever questioned you in connection with the Ashley Madison hack of 2015?

I was called once by someone claiming to be from the Toronto Police Service asking if I knew anything. The AM situation was not something they pursued according to the RCMP disclosure. Learning about the RCMP's most advanced cyber investigative techniques and capabilities was very interesting though. I was eventually told information by a third party which included knowledge that law enforcement effectively knew who the hacker was, but didn't have enough evidence to proceed with a case. That is the extent of my involvement with any authorities for this matter.

The data that I've dug up from Biderman's emails suggest you and Mr Malek joined at around the same time and left around the same time, both citing health reasons. When I search on a nickname that appears to have been used by your prior email accounts (AgentJags) I find email addresses connected to Mr Malek as well (Jags).

As far as I know I did not say I was leaving for health reasons and indicated to HR that I planned to pursue security work, which I tried to do during my short time there if you review my GIT commits from the released code. As for that gamer tag, at some point prior to 2010 I

obtained the Runescape account from him after he quit the game. Since I developed a reputation for being exceptionally trustworthy in various virtual worlds, I eventually adopted the tag myself. While you're doing your database sleuthing, others have used the username that are not me over time. The irony of you using stolen data to conduct your business is not lost on me considering some of your previous articles on the topic.

Did Mr. Malek work with you after leaving Ashley Madison? Or before joining AM? Do you know how I can get in touch with Mr. Malek?

I'm not sure why he's of interest but I've told him you're looking to reach out. I received some testing and functionality help from him while I was developing for the Private Server community. We've also assisted each other with general coding and problem solving on other minor (and mostly failed) entrepreneurial projects.

What were the terms of Defiant Tech's settlement with the Canadian authorities over LeakedSource? I assume there was some disgorgement of profit or fine or something (was there?), but it's not clear to me what punishment you suffered as a result of the settlement.

In Canadian law, we are entitled to what is called a "preliminary inquiry" which is a trial in front of a judge where the Government's evidence is by default taken at its highest and a judge decides whether a case should proceed to a full trial.

At this inquiry the Judge found that even if everything the Government alleged was true it would not constitute a violation of any law in Canada with respect to I believe 3-4 charges, specifically:

- 1) Unauthorized use of a computer
- 2) Mischief to data - 2-3 counts I believe

In Canada at the lower court level we are allowed to possess stolen information and manipulate our copies of them as we please.

The Judge however decided that a trial was required to determine whether any activities of mine were reckless, as the other qualifier of intentionally criminal didn't apply. I will note here that nothing I was accused of doing would have been illegal if done in the United States of America according to their District Attorney. +1 for free speech in America vs freedom of expression in Canada.

Shortly after their having most of their case thrown out, the Government proposed an offer during a closed door meeting where they would drop all charges against me, provide full and complete personal immunity, and in exchange the Corporation which has since been dissolved would plead guilty. The Corporation would also pay a modest fine. Placing paper copies of the Articles of Incorporation in jail

would probably not have served the ends of justice in any meaningful way.

The LS case against me began in 2016–2017 and concluded in 2019. While I was happy to go to trial at the time, if you review the historical price of Cryptocurrency in 2017 compared to previous years, you might come to the conclusion that paying a monetary fine would not have any meaningful impact on my life and the Corporation agreed. It turns out situations and actions that you, the Government, and others thought were obvious crimes are much more nuanced and perhaps covered by various forms of free speech even if disagreeable.

Ultimately I have the same criminal record you presumably do. None at all.

What are you doing these days?

Assuming you mean employment, as I'm sure you're aware negative media attention can have a significant impact in today's world on jobs and life in general. I had some very interesting Information Security job offers prior to the original media articles, job offers which eventually vanished. I even had one family refuse to sell their residence to me and eventually accepted I think \$25–30k less money to sell to someone else. All this to say I am forcefully effectively unemployed/retired as my current "social credit score" is too low to find meaningful employment.

That's all for now. Thanks in advance.

Bk

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
10:15 PM (58 minutes ago)  
to Jordan

Thank you. The reason I am interested in Mr. Malek is the overlap in your profiles prior to working at AM, and because from reading Mr. Biderman's leaked emails it seems he was the one that initially recommended you for the job at AM.

I have just a few more questions, based on your responses. Did Mr. Malek assist you with LeakedSource? Did you have a partner in building, running or operating Leakedsource?

An email from Ashley Madison director of IT described you as independently wealthy as the result of a gaming platform you ran, and a picture taking/editing/tracking product called pictrace. Based on some digging I did, it appears this platform was Near-Reality[.com]. Is that accurate?



Were you ever an administrator or staff at Abusewith[.]us?

Why would stories about your association with LeakedSource prevent you from continuing to earn a living as you did prior to Ashley Madison? I'm asking because it's not like you have to work for someone else to do the work you were doing prior to AM.

Would you still consider yourself independently wealthy? Do you still have the Lambo? Does your response mean you are unemployed currently, or just self-employed?

Thank you again for your time.

Bk

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
Attachments  
10:19 PM (54 minutes ago)  
to Jordan

BTW here is the email I referenced in re health issues. I've also included what they said about your prior to your hire.

2

Attachments  
• Scanned by Gmail

brian krebs <krebsonsecurity@gmail.com>  
10:45 PM (28 minutes ago)  
to Jordan

A few more questions came up. They are not questions I particularly enjoy asking, but I have to ask them.

Why did you decide to leave AM less than a year after starting work there? Did you have it in mind to start Leakedsource when you made the decision to quit?

Did you have any part in hacking Ashley Madison?

Thanks again,

Bk

Jordan  
Attachments  
11:10 PM (3 minutes ago)

to me

Below

Thank you. The reason I am interested in Mr. Malek is the overlap in your profiles prior to working at AM, and because from reading Mr. Biderman's leaked emails it seems he was the one that initially recommended you for the job at AM.

He did recommend me, and several others. I think there was a \$5k referral bonus at the time.

I have just a few more questions, based on your responses.

Did Mr. Malek assist you with LeakedSource?

No.

Did you have a partner in building, running or operating Leakedsource?

Yes.

An email from Ashley Madison director of IT described you as independently wealthy as the result of a gaming platform you ran, and a picture taking/editing/tracking product called pictrace. Based on some digging I did, it appears this platform was Near-Reality[.com]. Is that accurate?

Yes.

Were you ever an administrator or staff at Abusewith[.]us?

No.

Why would stories about your association with LeakedSource prevent you from continuing to earn a living as you did prior to Ashley Madison? I'm asking because it's not like you have to work for someone else to do the work you were doing prior to AM.

As I'm sure you're aware, having negative media attention associated with alleged (key word) criminal activity can have a detrimental effect on employment, banking and relationships. I have no current interest in being a business owner, nor do I have any useful business ideas to be honest. I was and am interested in interesting Information Security/programming work but it's too large of a risk for any business to hire someone who was formerly accused of a crime.

Would you still consider yourself independently wealthy?

I would.

Do you still have the Lambo?

Yes.

Does your response mean you are unemployed currently, or just self-employed?

I am unemployed.

Why did you decide to leave AM less than a year after starting work there? Did you have it in mind to start Leakedsource when you made the decision to quit?

I intended to leverage my gaming connections to get into security work including for other private servers such as Minecraft communities and others. After months of asking management for more interesting tasks, I became bored. Some days I had virtually nothing to do except spin in my chair so I would browse the source code for security holes to fix because I found it enjoyable.

I believe the decision to start LS was partly inspired by the AM hack itself, and the large number of people from a former friend group messaging me asking if XYZ person was in the leak after I revealed to them that I downloaded a copy and had the ability to browse it. LS was never my idea - I was just a builder, and the only Canadian. In other countries it was never thought to be illegal on closer examination of their laws.

Did you have any part in hacking Ashley Madison?

No. As you can see from the pre-hire email you sent me from Noel's inbox which was accurate and describes my knowledge at the time I demonstrably had no problem with grey market activities which for some people in the world include AM itself.

Thank you again for your time.

Bk

[OFF THE RECORD FROM YOUR FOLLOWUP EMAIL]

I did have some health issues in 2015 which I was recommended to undergo surgery for. I've attached a screenshot of my OLS results from that period, some scans and any physician notes won't show up on this screen though. If my work from home schedule is available to you, you'll see I wasn't able to go to the office and lost over 15 lbs of weight. I distinctly remember telling Aneka that I intended to pursue

security work which is likely what she meant by contract work.