

TRAILBLAZERS

CYBERSECURITY & DATA PRIVACY

CRAIG A. NEWMAN

PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & TYLER LLP



PIONEER SPIRIT Craig Newman's introduction to cybersecurity was pure happenstance. His litigation background enabled him to oversee a two-year global internal investigation. "This was 15 years ago, before cybersecurity was popular."

TRAILS BLAZED Since cybersecurity is an evolving area, Newman has developed a flexible practice. "I'm working on advising corporate boards' leadership and companies on cyberpreparedness and risk mitigation." Companies in the midst of data breaches that are in highly regulated fields also call on him for regulatory investigations and assisting the SEC. Much of his practice involves internal investigations. "Cybersecurity is a perfect storm—it is multidimensional, challenging and always changing." It's also an area where lawyers can make a difference by helping clients think proactively. "Most areas of law are not very proactive. With cybersecurity, you can move the needle to help clients prepare for a breach, put controls in place and manage the case ahead of time. The better prepared companies are, the better the response and the lower the cost."

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS Hackers are becoming increasingly sophisticated and developing a growing number of nondetectable viruses. That makes it more difficult for organizations to become cybersecure. On the other hand, companies are more aware now than ever, regulators are keenly focused on cyber risks and the law is just beginning to evolve. "We are in the second inning of what I believe is going to become a very long and interesting ballgame."

Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP