

March 14, 2022

The domain names for breakingcodesilence.org and breakingcodesilence.com exist in a Hover DNS account controlled by Katherine MacNamara. They were required to be surrendered to Breaking Code Silence upon her termination as a volunteer. They have not been surrendered and are being used to control the site's search engine configuration for malicious purposes.

Malicious requests were entered in Google Search Console requesting that the site be de-listed from Google search results. It is likely that these were deliberately timed to remove the website from Google just before the release of the Lifetime movie "Cruel Instruction", the broadcast of which included promotional content for Breaking Code Silence. Two such requests were placed in Google search console on March 8th and then apparently canceled. The third request was placed on March 9th and remained in effect until we were able to remove it in the late afternoon of March 10th. The site was unavailable on Google for a full day as MacNamara's organization ran targeted ads on the string "breaking code silence". This was an act of malicious sabotage.

We revoked access to Google Search Console from all unauthorized users but encountered a steady stream of attempts to re-add a user (jeremy@medtexter.com) by a user with admin privileges that we could not revoke (iristheangel@gmail.com). These addresses are associated with Jeremy Whiteley and Katherine MacNamara. Google confirmed that MacNamara's privileges were due to malicious TXT records on the domain name entry, which means we cannot revoke her control without control of the domain name. MacNamara also added what seemed to be government addresses, including president@whitehouse.gov and comments@whitehouse.gov for reasons we don't understand.

This puts not just our Google Search Console config at risk, but jeopardizes the security of all web infrastructure associated with the aforementioned domain names. There have also been malicious attempts to access the Wordpress admin console on BreakingCodeSilence.org.

We need the domains surrendered to us immediately and malicious use of the domains and attempts to access the Wordpress admin console to halt.

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