

# Equifax Breach Caused by Lone Employee's Error, Former CEO Says



The Equifax data breach happened because a single employee failed to implement software fixes, the company's former chief executive told members of Congress on Tuesday.

*The New York Times* reports that Richard F. Smith, who stepped down last week, repeatedly apologized to the members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee – and the American people – for the security lapse.

“Angry members of the committee tore into Mr. Smith and pressed him on how a credit bureau of Equifax’s size, responsible for safeguarding billions of sensitive records on Americans’ financial lives, could have allowed so much data to escape, unnoticed,” write **Tara Siegel Bernard** and **Stacy Cowley**.

**Read the *NYT* article.**

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