



June 15, 2016

**18 months of imprisonment for massive personal data theft
and dissemination in a verdict given by the
Israeli Magistrate Court in Tel Aviv**

Investigation by the Israeli Data Protection Authority

The Israeli Magistrate Court in Tel Aviv sentenced Mr. Lever to 18 months imprisonment, 100,000 NIS (approximately 25,000\$) fine and 6 months probation for invasion of privacy offences and obstruction of justice, following his role in a personal data theft and dissemination case.

The investigation was conducted by the criminal investigations unit in the Israeli Law, Information and Technology Authority (ILITA), the Israeli DPA. The investigation reflects the strong investigation powers and robust forensic capabilities of ILITAs investigation unit.

This verdict concludes a case that began with an outsourced worker who stole the Population Registry Data Base from a government ministry. The data base contained dozens of fields of personal information about all Israelis (including minors and deceased).

The data base was passed on from one defendant to another, and one of them also developed an application that enabled easy and efficient queries and report generation.

Mr. Lever, the recently sentenced defendant, was the one responsible for making the data accessible to the entire public by uploading links, and a 30 page manual, encouraging the public to use the application. Lever disguised his identity using proxies and inaccessible servers. After realizing the strong digital evidence against him, Mr. Lever confessed in court about his role in the case.



Mr. Lever is one of 6 defendants that were charged with invasion of privacy and other crimes in this case. 4 of the defendants have already been sentenced to community service and imprisonment, according to their role in the case, and another defendant was convicted and is awaiting his verdict.

The case received high attention from the Israeli media.

In accordance with the Israeli Privacy Act, ILITA enforces the act's provisions with regards to data protection. Ilita is empowered to conduct administrative and criminal investigations.

Ilita has powers on both private and public sectors.

In addition, Ilita promotes compliance with the Privacy Act among government and public sector bodies and implementation of data protection issues in major digital projects and legislation processes in the Knesset.