In February 2016, Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center’s computer network was hit with a cyberattack. The hackers took over the computer system, blocking access to medical records and email, and demanded ransom in return for restoring the system. After days without access to their computer system, the hospital paid the hackers 40 bitcoins, worth about $17,000, in ransom and regained control of the network.

“The quickest and most efficient way to restore our systems and administrative functions was to pay the ransom and obtain the decryption key. In the best interest of restoring normal operations, we did this.”

- Allen Stefanek, president and chief executive of Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center