Threat Hunter Playbook

Playbook Title: "Windows Event Logs Cleared via PowerShell (Clear-EventLog)"

Date Created: 2022-07-10

Hypothesis: Attackers will try to cover their tracks using PowerShell

Mitre Tactic: T1070 "Indicator Removal on Host"

Mitre Sub Technique: T1070.001 "Indicator Removal on Host: Clear Windows Event Logs" (via PowerShell Clear-EventLog)

Simulation Details (if any): None

Proposed Search Query: index=sysmon event.code=1 process.command_line="*Clear-EventLog*"

Hunter Limitations/Observation Notes: The Proposed Search Query produced evidence that the PowerShell cmdlet "Clear-EventLog" was used, but the results were broad. The search query was improved to display the relevant data in a readable format (see Proposed Detection Query).

Hunt Findings: Use of the PowerShell cmdlet 'Clear-EventLog' should be monitored for any suspicious behavior, and so the Proposed Detection Query should be made into a detection.

Proposed Detection Title: "ALERT: PowerShell 'Clear-EventLog' executed"

Proposed Detection Query:

index=sysmon event.code=1 process.command_line="*Clear-EventLog*" | rename process.command_line as command | table _time host.name
event.code user.name command | sort _time