

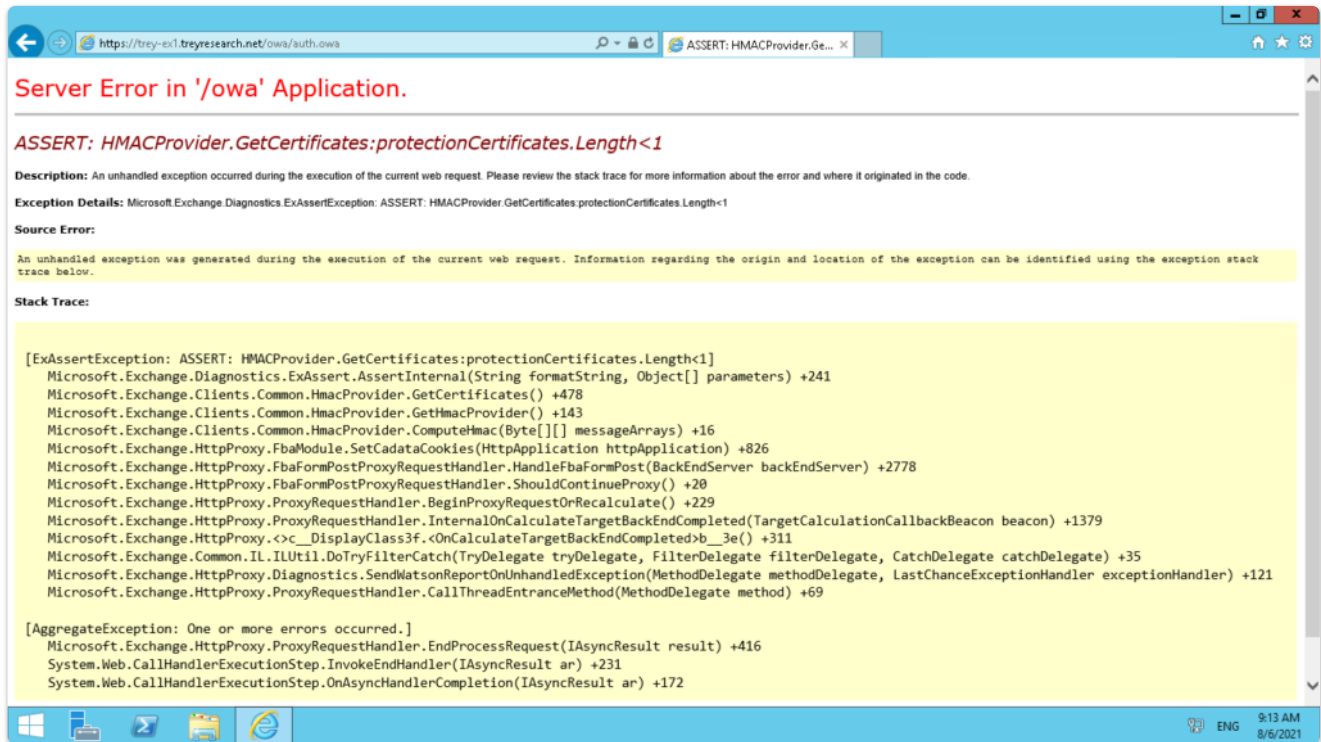
Server Error in OWA Application

#exchange

#fix

#windows-server

- After an **Exchange Server 2013 CU23 (KB5004778)** update or **expiration of OAuth certificate** you can encounter this error message after logging in to OWA / ECP



Solution:

- the solution is kinda easy
- run the **Exchange Management Shell** on the server itself as Administrator
- we're gonna create a whole new **Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate** with the help of this command

```
New-ExchangeCertificate -KeySize 2048 -PrivateKeyExportable $true -SubjectName  
"cn=Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate" -FriendlyName "Microsoft Exchange  
Server Auth Certificate" -DomainName "domain.com"
```

- this command will give you the **Thumbprint** of the newly created certificate
- we're gonna use that in the next command

```
[PS] C:\Windows\system32>New-ExchangeCertificate -KeySize 2048 -PrivateKeyExportable $true -SubjectName "cn=Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate" -FriendlyName "Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate" -DomainName "TreyResearch.net"

Confirm
Overwrite the existing default SMTP certificate?
Current certificate: '5C3A4433DC6835BAD7B062E41FF54DBB86E723AB' (expires 8/5/2026 3:12:14 PM)
Replace it with certificate: 'B181222B2D65A372055F331EFE985558A71EF688' (expires 8/6/2026 9:14:51 AM)
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [?] Help (default is "Y"): A

Thumbprint          Services          Subject
-----
B181222B2D65A372055F331EFE985558A71EF688 ....S.. CN=Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate

[PS] C:\Windows\system32>Set-AuthConfig -NewCertificateThumbprint B181222B2D65A372055F331EFE985558A71EF688 -NewCertificateEffectiveDate (Get-Date)

Confirm
The new certificate effective date is not at least "48" hours in the future and may not be deployed on all necessary servers. Do you wish to continue?
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [?] Help (default is "Y"): Set-AuthConfig -PublishCertificate
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [?] Help (default is "Y"): Set-AuthConfig -ClearPreviousCertificate
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [?] Help (default is "Y"):
[PS] C:\Windows\system32>Restart-WebAppPool MSEExchangeOWAAppPool
[PS] C:\Windows\system32>Restart-WebAppPool MSEExchangeECPAppPool
[PS] C:\Windows\system32>
```

```
Set-AuthConfig -NewCertificateThumbprint "thumbprint" -NewCertificateEffectiveDate
(Get-Date)
```

note: enter the Thumbprint without the quotes

- now we're gonna publish our new certificate and clear the previous one

```
Set-AuthConfig -PublishCertificate
```

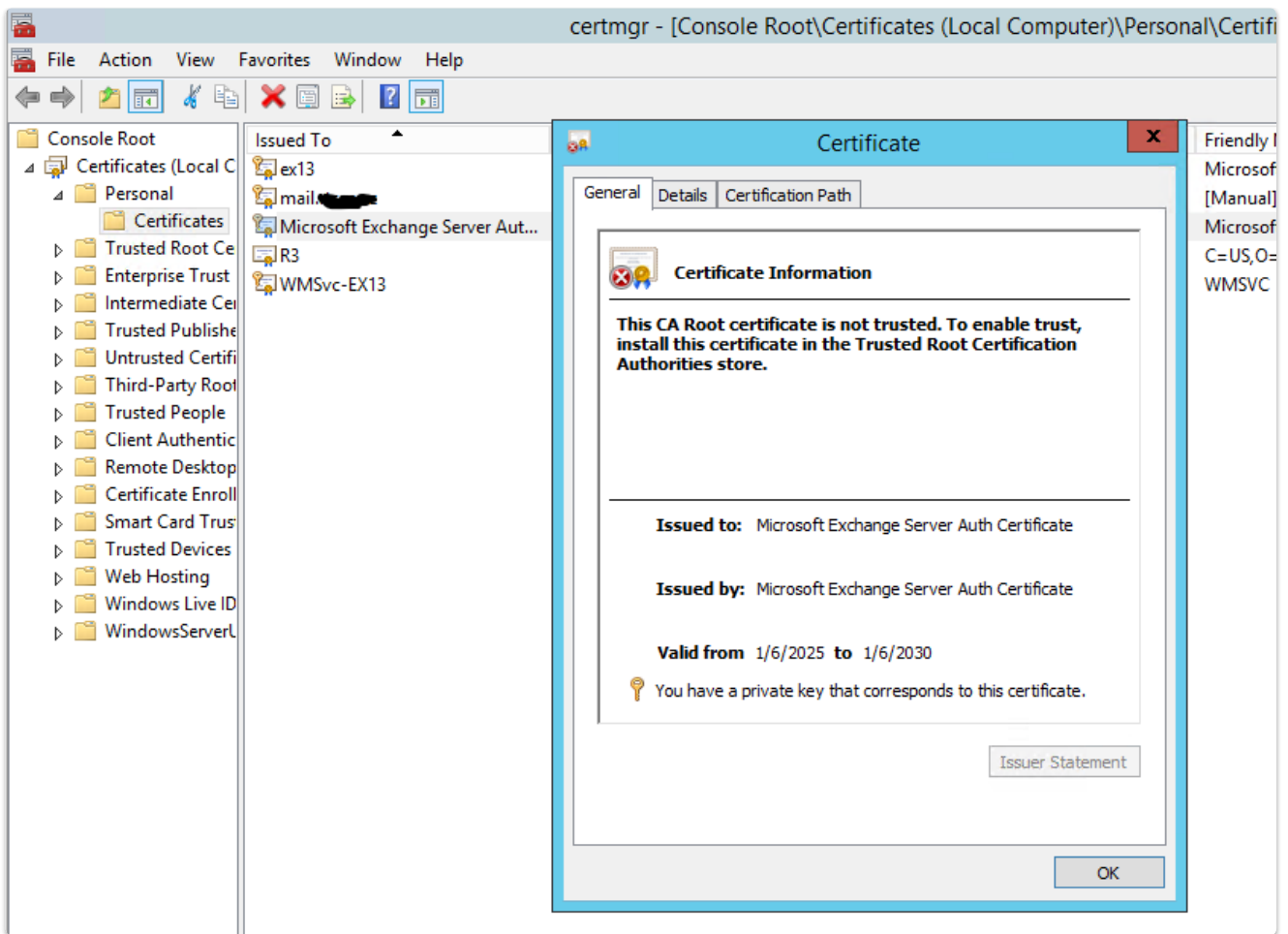
```
Set-AuthConfig -ClearPreviousCertificate
```

- almost finishing, now just restart the *IIS AppPools* for OWA and ECP

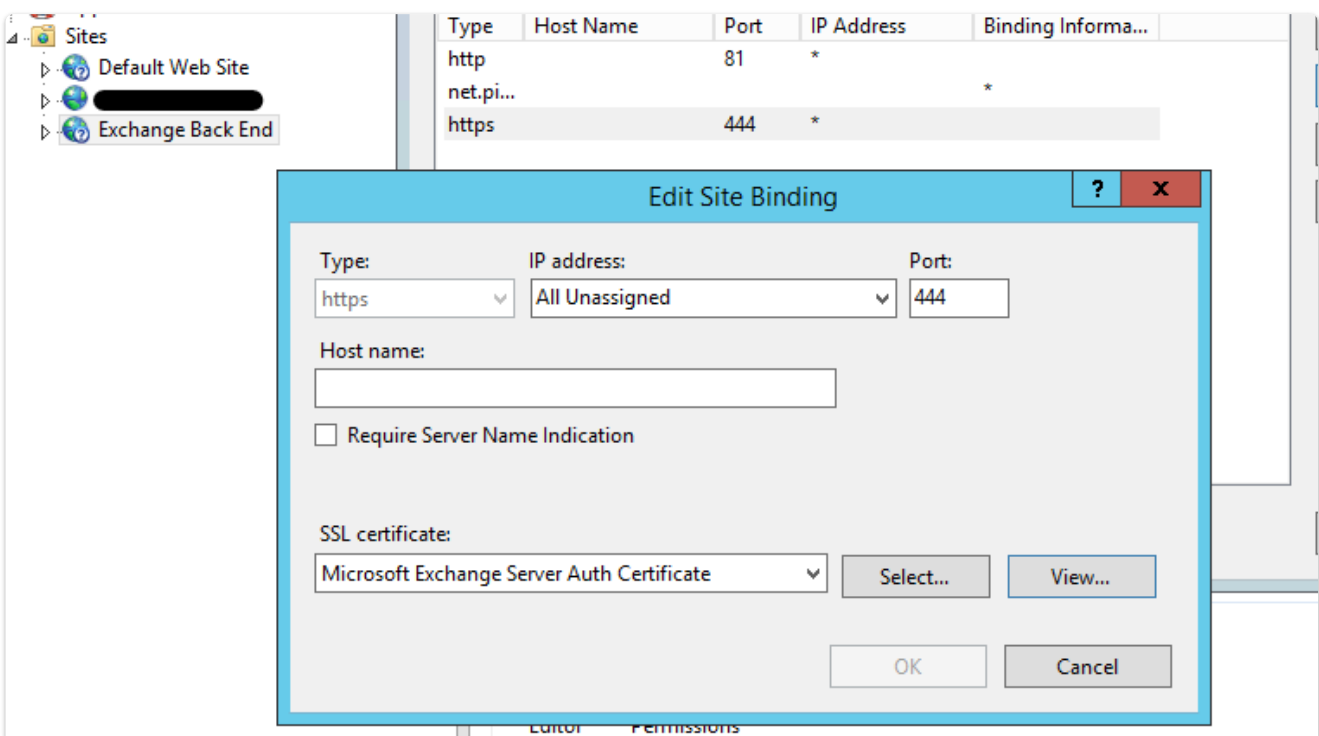
```
Restart-WebAppPool MSEExchangeOWAAppPool
```

```
Restart-WebAppPool MSEExchangeECPAppPool
```

- finally check in the MMC console if you have *only one Microsoft Exchange Server Auth Certificate*
- don't worry about it not being trusted, keep it in the Personal > Certificates



- i also **recommend** to bind this new certificate to the *Exchange Back End* in the *IIS Manager* itself



- that's pretty much it, but don't expect that it will start working immediately
- Microsoft says it can take up to several hours before it begins to work again, so keep that in mind

- if you want, you can try to restart the whole IIS to see if it will start running correctly sooner, but personally i would let it be to do it's things