**System Hardening**

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**Proposal**

The objective of this proposal is to harden the system using the Windows Server 2012 R2. The type of service that we will be hardening is an email server for a law firm; responsible for collecting documents, to managing asynchronous communication, to planning lunch with clients. With this server they can have all related/relevant data in one place, it will be centralized and can share with others, the system does the organizing automatically, ease of searching certain emails, and lastly the system will be integrated with OCR to PDF automatically.

**Environment**

The law firm network environment has many workstations for office work. Security is the main concern as all the confidential information is stored on their machines. To provide more hardening to the system, some of the servers will be setup on a different subnet rather than having one whole big network and this other subnet will be connected together with a router in the middle.

The mail server will be setup along with the database server. The mail server will be responsible for sending mails/messages, send copies of scanned documents, receive emails, such as booking appointments, arranging meetings and etc. This server will be strictly an email only service and will not be using any other third-party email providers or services. We will be setting up the SMTP and IMAP so that the clients can send and receive mail. The reason to be using IMAP over POP3 is that with IMAP they can log into different email client interfaces and still be able to view the same email in the same format as it was sent, and they will be secured in the mail server rather than downloading them onto their PCs. Basically, the purpose of IMAP is to have a centralized environment for emails. See diagram below for more visual view.

