ECS 235B Module 33
Break-the-Glass Policies
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• Motivation: when security requirements conflict, some access controls may need to be overwritten in an unpredictable manner
  • Example: a doctor may need access to a medical record to treat someone, yet that person is unable to give consent (without which access would be denied)

• User overrides the denial
  • Controls notify some people about the override
  • Controls log override for later audit
Example: Rumpole

• Implements a break-the-glass policy

• *Evidential rules*: how to assemble evidence to create context for request

• *Break-glass rules*: define permissions
  - Includes constraints such as obligations to justify need for actions

• *Grant policies*: how rules are combined to determine whether to grant override
Example: Rumpole Enforcement Model

• *Request*: subject, desired action, resource, obligations acceptable to subject

• Decision point:
  • Grants request
  • Denies request
  • Returns request with set of obligations subject must accept; subject then can send a new request with that set of obligations, if they are acceptable