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Today's Top News

1. CBP rolls out facial recognition technology at JFK

Thursday, January 21, 2016 | By Molly Bernhart Walker

U.S. Customs and Border Protection began using facial recognition technology this week at John F. Kennedy International Airport to verify that travelers match their passport photos. The move follows a successful pilot of the technology at Washington Dulles International Airport in Northern Virginia.

This first deployment of the technology at JFK will be limited to some first-time Visa Waiver Program travelers and those entering the United States with U.S.-issued e-Passports, <u>said</u> a Jan. 19 press release from CBP.

"This biometric capability will aid our officers in identifying legitimate travelers while protecting them from fraud and identity theft with little to no delay to the entry process. CBP continues to implement technologies that benefit both national security and the traveler," said CBP Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske in a statement.

Upon inspection by a CBP agent, the system takes a traveler's photo and compares that image to the stored image associated with the e-Passport. It will then delete the image of the entrant unless further enforcement action is necessary, said the announcement.

The Homeland Security Department also publicly released this week the results of its privacy impact assessment of the "1:1 Facial recognition Air Entry Pilot" Dulles conducted from March to May last year.

According to the report (<u>pdf</u>), the program operated as a standalone at Dulles and was not connected to other CBP systems. The department noted that this runs the risk of CBP launching multiple standalone databases at ports of entry that may not go through the required security review and accreditation prior to deployment.

The report said the agency plans to mitigate that risk with a broader system.

"The current standalone facial comparison system is an interim step towards developing a fully integrated facial comparison capability that will share data (collected only from adverse actions) directly with existing CBP enforcement systems," said the report.

"When fully integrated, the authorized stand-alone database, currently storing adverse actions reports, will be decommissioned and all data will be destroyed. This risk will be mitigated after a nation-wide deployment to better integrate with existing IT systems," the report added.

For more:

- read the CBP press release

- download the privacy impact assessment (.pdf)

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State Department looks to enhance biometric identity assurance technology NIST, FBI collaborate on biometric technology certification program GAO report: Federal law should adapt to growing privacy concerns of facial recognition technology

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2. <u>FedRAMP authorization process changes, 'high' security</u> baseline pilot in the works

Thursday, January 21, 2016 | By Molly Bernhart Walker

The General Services Administration-led program that aims to speed up and standardize agencies' security assessments for cloud computing technology plans to roll out major changes in the coming weeks and months.

The Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, or FedRAMP, plans to speed up the authorization process by putting more focus on capabilities and evidence up front, rather than documentation throughout, <u>said</u> FedRAMP Director Matt Goodrich in a Jan. 20 GSA blog post.

"We believe this will allow FedRAMP to scale not only for government, but for industry as well," said Goodrich.

The program also plans to increase transparency by making information on authorized and authorization-in-progress cloud service providers, agencies using FedRAMP and additional services searchable, downloadable and easy to find, wrote Goodrich.

The program also plans to finalize FedRAMP for systems meeting its high-impact security systems' requirements by the spring, and pilot the effort with a handful of vendors through the Joint Authorization Board.

"You told us that CSPs can provide higher level of security than FedRAMP authorizes now and that agencies want to use those services," said Goodrich.

Earlier this month, the deadline for comment on the latest draft version of cloud computing standards for high impact systems under FedRAMP closed. The "high" baseline refers to systems housing the most sensitive information and relates to

requirements for confidentiality, integrity and availability in accordance with Federal Information Processing Standard, or FIPS, 199.

The General Services Administration's FedRAMP Program Management Office recently issued a second release of the draft – focused specifically on controls – building on an original draft released for public comment in March 2015.

Finally, Goodrich said the program will do more to promote FedRAMP reuse by better matching CSPs with agency needs. Ashley Mahan, the program office's newly appointed FedRAMP evangelist, is visiting every agency to identify how they're using FedRAMP and understand the types of CSPs they want to use, according to the post.

For more:

- read the blog post

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Spotlight: FedRAMP reform bill in the works

3. Sunset on US-EU safe harbor data agreement fast approaching

Thursday, January 21, 2016 | By Molly Bernhart Walker

Only ten days remain until the deadline for the United States and European Union to reach a new "safe harbor" agreement on data transfers between the two jurisdictions. Given U.S.-EU talks aren't expected to pick back up until Feb. 2, U.S. companies are preparing for the pact to expire.

In October, the European Court of Justice declared the 15-year-old safe harbor framework invalid due to concerns that U.S. companies could not protect the privacy of Europeans' data from U.S. government surveillance. Companies had used the framework to lawfully transfer Europeans' data to the U.S.

That ruling set a Jan. 31 deadline for a new agreement, but *Reuters* reported that a decision on whether and how U.S.-EU data transfers can continue won't be discussed until European data protection authorities meet in Brussels on Feb. 2

As *Christian Science Monitor* <u>noted</u>, not only are meetings not scheduled until after the deadline, thus far no clear alternatives to the safe harbor agreement have presented themselves.

"The Article 29 Working Group, which advises EU data protection authorities, has said that after Jan. 31 companies that cannot comply with privacy rules could face enforcement action," reported *CSM*.

It's not clear what such an enforcement action would look like or if the data protection authorities will only seek out the most flagrant violations. At least two EU member countries – Germany and France – have said they intend to investigate trans-Atlantic data flows after Jan. 31, said *CSM*.

Legal experts told the publication that "Companies should begin planning for the possibility that no alternative to Safe Harbor will emerge by the deadline."

Reuters reported that a handful of technology industry groups have warned of "enormous" consequences for businesses and consumers should data talks fail. "This issue must be resolved immediately," said the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, BusinessEurope, DigitalEurope and the Information Technology Industry Council.

For more:

- read these articles from Reuters
- read this Christian Science Monitor article

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European backlash against NSA surveillance grows

U.S.-EU split on data privacy could upend the Internet, diplomat says

FTC slaps wrists of 12 U.S. companies for violating U.S.-EU Safe Harbor

Agreement

4. New America calls for FCC to adopt Qualcomm proposal on 5.9 GHz band

Thursday, January 21, 2016 | By Chris Nehls

The technology policy arm of Washington think tank New America recommended splitting a portion of unlicensed spectrum between wireless applications and new automotive technology in a report it issued last week.

The report, authored by the organization's Wireless Future Project Director Michael A. Calabrese, covered possibilities for regulating the little-used 5.9 GHz band the agency has reserved for vehicle-to-vehicle communications. It called on the Federal Communications Commission to side with a proposal from Qualcomm over a competing one from Cisco, and urged the FCC to issue a new Public Notice early this year to propose a timeline for testing a split of the spectrum.

Qualcomm's proposal suggested reserving three exclusive channels for

Dedicated Short-Range Communications, or DSRC, that operate roadway safety features in autonomous and smart vehicles. It proposed allowing non-safety-of-life DSRC applications and wireless carriers to share the remaining 45 megahertz of the ban.

Cisco, on the other hand, proposed giving heavy priority on the band to systems of sensor-loaded cars, making the spectrum band difficult for Wi-Fi devices to utilize.

Giving wireless companies and application developers access to the 5.9 GHz spectrum would give more room to Wi-Fi traffic, which already represents between 60 and 80 percent of all mobile data use. The 5 GHz band can accommodate the higher-capacity 802.11ac Wi-Fi standard, which promises gigabit-sized network capacity with greater energy efficiency for mobile devices.

Calabrese noted that DSRC, which the FCC first protected in 1999, includes not just critical safety applications for vehicles, but other driver perks like in-car navigation and wireless payment systems as well. The technology may also prove obsolete with the development of different sensors powered by radar, lasers and ultrasonic pulses.

"There is clearly a win-win solution that would set aside a portion of the 5.9 GHz frequency band exclusively for auto safety, while allowing Wi-Fi to share the rest of the band with non-safety auto applications," he wrote. "Sharing this under-utilized public spectrum would strike the best balance between the public interest in auto safety and high-capacity Wi-Fi."

FCC commissioners Jessica Rosenworcel and Michael O'Rielly echoed Calabrese's opinion at a rollout event for the report on January 12, calling on the commission to reconsider sharing the spectrum bands between wireless developers and the automotive industry.

For more:

- download the New America report (.pdf)
- view its press release

Related Articles:

FCC commissioners: There's enough 5.9 GHz spectrum to go around Seattle's new free Wi-Fi can handle a crowd
FCC proposal would give unlicensed users space in TV spectrum

5. Ideas for strengthening cybersecurity boil down to 5 main

categories

Thursday, January 21, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

Five action categories emerged in a new report on ways the government can better tackle cybersecurity.

When the American Council for Technology and Industry Advisory Council, or ACT-IAC, asked industry, government and academia for ideas about how the government can tackle one of its most pressing issues, it found that most suggestions involved people, information technology asset prioritization, assessments, operations and legislation/regulation, according to a report (pdf) the councils put together based on the responses.

Eight challenge areas also took shape from the 200 responses ACT-IAC got over two months. The first is addressing cybersecurity fundamentals, including clearly defining roles and responsibilities at every level of an agency. In other words, make cybersecurity everyone's responsibility, the report stated.

Another area is business-initiated vulnerabilities, or the added risk that results from a lack of awareness of potential cyber vulnerabilities and threats.

Strengthening risk management through efforts such as inventorying systems and implementing continuous monitoring could help here, the report said.

A third challenge is breach-to-response acceleration, which would address the problem of breaches going undetected for 205 days, on average, and delayed responses once they are discovered. To do this, the report recommended running simulations and drills, implementing playbooks and researching ways to detect breaches faster.

Additionally, the report identified adopting a threat-aware proactive defense as another challenge area. It means that too often, government officials rely on perimeter defense rather than defense-in-depth approaches.

What's more, the report stated, agencies would be well served by better sharing threat intelligence, both among one another and with industry, through efforts such as the Cyber Threat Alliance, the Structured Threat Information Expression and Trusted Automated eXchange of Indicator Information frameworks.

Hiring and retaining a more skilled cyber workforce was another area, as was increasing risk management initiatives led by agency executives.

For example, one idea in the report recommended instituting a Cyber Investment Management Board that would foster support from agency leaders, align resources with high-priority assets and identify the greatest risks and impacts.

"Prioritize funding through budget alignment and accountability using a publicly

accessible scorecard," the report added.

The eighth area was building effective security into acquisitions, which should also become more agile and adaptive. The report's suggested improvements included establishing a cybersecurity acquisition portal and using certifications akin to the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, which provides a standardized approach to secure cloud products and services.

"A more methodical, deliberate approach to cybersecurity is needed," the report said. "There is often a lack of accountability, knowledge and awareness from an organizational and personnel perspective."

"If technology is to serve as an integral part of society and the economy, then we need to do a much better job at cybersecurity," it added.

For more:

- <u>download</u> the report (.pdf)

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Cyber intrusion attempts targeting VA continue to increase

CRS: Congress may want to increase its oversight of the federal cybersecurity workforce

USPS cyber response plan focuses on only internal threats, says IG

Also Noted

Spotlight: Push ISIS to the dark Web, says Google exec

Speaking at an event in the United Kingdom Monday, Google's Director of Ideas Jared Cohen said the Islamic State's online propaganda would be significantly hampered if the group was pushed from the open Web to dark Web networks, such as Tor. According to *The Guardian*, Cohen said the terrorist organization "Has managed to create an exaggerated sense of their size online." Search engines don't index the dark Web, so limiting the group's operations to Tor would make information it shares significantly harder to find, he said. For more, read the article from *The Guardian*.

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- > Partnership for Public Service opens presidential transitions center. <u>Article</u> (*FedTimes*)
- > What CIOs really think of FITARA implementation. Article (FCW)
- > HHS CISO leaving. Article (FedScoop)
- > Working to establish a solid foundation for measurement science in the Identity Ecosystem. <u>Post</u> (NSTIC blog)
- > EFF obtains more information on zero days. Post (Deeplinks Blog)

And Finally... Until mid-February, see five planets at once with the naked eye. <u>Article</u> (*PopSci*)

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| 01.22.16 | White House announces overhaul of background check system



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Today's Top News

1. <u>Audio: Federal government to overhaul background investigation</u> <u>system</u>

Friday, January 22, 2016 | By Molly Bernhart Walker

The federal government is changing the way it performs background investigations and securing the sensitive data associated with the process, according to senior officials speaking on a press call Jan. 22.

Scroll down to the audio player to listen to the call in full (approximately 30 minutes).

The administration announced plans to create the National Background Investigations Bureau within the Office of Personnel Management. Its head will be presidentially appointed and a member of the White House's Performance Accountability Council.

The bureau will have more autonomy than currently provided through the background check program, said officials on the call. OPM will stand up a transition team for the formation of the new component.

White House Cybersecurity Coordinator Michael Daniel said many aspects of the plan would roll out in 2016, but he said there is "no specific timeline at this point" and called the new process "ongoing."

The Defense Department will be responsible for securing the new background check system, <u>according to</u> a fact sheet the White House issued Jan. 22. The DoD-run system should be better equipped to counter external cyberthreats as well as those from trusted insiders, said Federal Chief Information Officer Tony Scott.

The security enhancements will build upon changes implemented in response to the OPM breach that left the personal information of some 21.5 million individuals exposed.

"The reworking of the clearance process also gives us an opportunity to redesign the underlying information infrastructure in a way that takes advantage of our experience, technology and cyber defense operations capabilities," said Marcel Lettre, undersecretary of defense for intelligence.

The new system will operate out of DoD Chief Information Officer Terry Halvorsen's office and the Defense Information Systems Agency will manage it.

The new policies and restructuring implement recommendations made in a review of the OPM breach by the Performance Accountability Council.

The officials on the call were:

- Beth Cobert, acting director of OPM
- Michael Daniel, special assistant to the president and cybersecurity coordinator of the National Security Council
- Bill Evanina, national counterintelligence executive and director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- Marcel Lettre, undersecretary of defense for intelligence at DoD
- Tony Scott, Federal Chief Information Officer

LISTEN TO THE CALL IN FULL

For more:

- read the fact sheet

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OPM sends last of background check database breach notifications
IG: OPM made mistakes in contracting for identity theft services
China-based hackers linked to OPM breach arrested, says report

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2. DHS defends biometrics effort as Congress calls for action

Friday, January 22, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

A day after a Homeland Security Department report showed that most U.S. visitors do not overstay their visas, a Senate subcommittee said a biometric exit system is crucial.

A biometric system matches a biometric attribute unique to an individual, such as fingerprints or a facial or iris image, that's collected upon entry and departure. Members of Congress has been calling for such a system since 1996, and DHS's "Entry/Exit Overstay Report for Fiscal Year 2015," which it released Jan. 19, is further evidence of its necessity, said Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-lowa). Grassley made his remarks in a prepared statement (pdf) at a Jan. 20 hearing of the Senate Judiciary Immigration and the National Interest subcommittee, which he chairs.

Although the report stated that 98.83 percent of visa holders left the United States on time and abided by the terms of their admission, it also said that about 480,000 overstayed their visas in fiscal year 2015.

"The total number of visa overstays across all fiscal years must be in the millions," Grassley said. Additionally, the report covered only two visa groups – overstays from all nonimmigrant visa categories under the immigration laws and the overstays for each class and sub-class of such nonimmigrant categories on a percountry basis. That left out other classifications such as foreign-student visas, employment-based visas, fiancé visas and people who participate in cultural exchange programs.

DHS responded in a joint statement (pdf) from John Wagner, deputy assistant commissioner of Customs and Border Protection's Office of Field Operations; Anh Duong, director of the border and maritime division of the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency in DHS's Science and Technology Directorate; and Craig Healy, assistant director of homeland security investigations at the National Security Investigations Division of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

In that statement, they asserted that DHS's agencies have made significant progress with the entry and exit system in the past decade, including progress with studying biometric approaches.

"DHS has concluded that a viable biometric exit solution depends on leveraging emerging technologies to innovate ways of processing passengers biometrically,"

they said. "In coming to this conclusion, DHS has considered and rejected broad options involving recapitalizing the infrastructure at land borders and airports or the hiring [of] additional officers to manually verify all departing travelers."

Grassley said that Congress recognized the cost and effort associated with the task, adding that millions of dollars have already been appropriated for a biometric exit system and related changes. Recently, Congress directed another \$1 billion to be used for this purpose, he said.

Rebecca Gambler, director of homeland security and justice issues at the Government Accountability Office, cited in prepared testimony (<u>pdf</u>) past reports that found that DHS faced a range of challenges in fully deploying a biometric exit capability. GAO referred particularly to 2004 statutory requirements that said the department had to implement a biometric exit capability and report overstay estimates.

As of this month, DHS still "has planning efforts underway but has not yet met these requirements," Gambler said.

Although DHS is responsible for such a system, CBP has led the effort since fiscal 2013.

"We can't wait any longer," Grassley said. "We've provided the funding, but now we need to see results."

For more:

- download Grassley's statement (.pdf)
- download DHS's testimony (.pdf)
- download Gambler's testimony (.pdf)

Related Articles:

Benefits of biometric exit system dubious, report says

DHS testing biometric exit devices at mock airport this summer

3. Cyber recommendations neglected at FBI, says report

Friday, January 22, 2016 | By Molly Bernhart Walker

A handful of recommendations the Justice Department Inspector General offered to bolster cybersecurity at the FBI remained open about two months following a report on the FBI's Next Generation Cyber Initiative.

Eight recommendations from a July 2015 report were listed as "resolved" but "not

closed" at the end of the fiscal year, according to a list (<u>pdf</u>) of some 700 open IG recommendations released by the watchdog.

The agency's Next Generation Cyber Initiative, which launched in 2012, established Cyber Task Forces in each of the FBI's field offices and switched the FBI's focus simply from computer-based crimes to cybercrimes that involved intrusions on computers and networks. Hiring additional computer scientists and forging partnerships with information sharing centers were other major components of the initiative.

The "not closed" recommendations as of Sept. 30, 2015 were to:

- Implement a plan to track and measure the timeliness of information sharing with the National Cyber Investigative Joint Task Force – a cyber information integration center that incorporates and disseminates data among federal agencies and some foreign governments
- · Hire computer scientists for authorized positions
- Develop creative recruitment, hiring and retention strategies for cyber professionals
- Recruit detailees to the FBI's Cyber Task Forces
- Communicate changes within the Cyber Division organizational structure, including roles and responsibilities, to the field divisions
- Strengthen outreach to private sector
- Develop metrics to measure the timeliness of information sharing to the private sector
- Develop information sharing strategies, including those that leverage machine-to-machine communication.

For more:

- download the DOJ IG's "not closed" recommendation list (.pdf)

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What keeps an FBI cyber official up at night?

4. <u>USAGov seeks to increase voter registration through social media partnerships</u>

Friday, January 22, 2016 | By Eli Richman

Beginning this election, the federal government will use social media notices, primarily on Facebook, to remind users to register to vote. Sarah Crane, the director of USAGov, announced the move Tuesday in a <u>USA.gov blog post</u>.

"Beginning this week, Facebook is reminding its users of state voter registration deadlines and linking prominently to <u>Vote.USA.gov</u> to help users complete the registration process," she wrote.

Vote.USA.gov, which launched in September 2015, provides an intuitive portal for potential voters across the country to use. After selecting their state, users can look up registration deadlines and download their voter registration forms.

The website and the social media notices are both part of a larger effort to increase voter registration across the country. Almost seven in 10 eligible Americans are registered to vote, according to the latest census (<u>pdf</u>), though typically far fewer than that <u>vote in national elections</u>.

Facebook made its first foray into voter participation in 2014, when users <u>saw</u> <u>voting reminders</u> at the top of their news feed on election day. This is the first time, however, that Facebook has taken action to increase the number of registered voters.

Facebook's influence was limited in 2014, with only 36.4 percent of the votingeligible population casting ballots that year, according to the <u>United States</u> <u>Elections Project</u>. That's the lowest turnout since WWII.

It's hard to say if that is telling of a larger trend, however, as midterm elections frequently see <u>far less participation</u> than Presidential elections.

Time will tell if Facebook can significantly increase voter registration and participation in 2016.

For more:

- read the usa.gov blog entry
- download the 2015 census data (.pdf)
- read this Washington Post article

Related Articles:

USPS could boost revenue, voter turnout by promoting mail-in voting, IG says Electronic voter registration is quicker and more accurate, state election official says

Presidential hopefuls touch on data breaches, spying and other federal IT issues in GOP debate

5. Study of EU's cybersecurity approach highlights need for sharing

Friday, January 22, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

The increase in cyberthreats means the public and private sectors of European Union member states need to collaborate, but only a fraction of them have set up partnerships, working groups or forums, a new report found.

Although cooperation between the sectors is high, only 10 of the 17 EU countries and one European Free Trade Association country studied have institutionalized ways to work together to protect critical information infrastructure, according to a Jan. 21 report by the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security. To encourage more teamwork, the report recommended six action areas, including policy and legislation, effective governance and more information sharing.

One example of a country with a strong relationship with the private sector is the Netherlands, the report said. Within its National Cyber Security Centre, several partnerships exist to detect, respond to and analyze threats. The Cyber Security Council is made of representatives from public and private entities and serves as an independent advisory board.

Germany has set up several information-sharing schemes. Its National Cyber Response Centre facilitates sharing between law enforcement and intelligence agencies, while UP KRITIS, a public/private partnership, is responsible for establishing critical information infrastructure protection communication and cooperation between the private and public stakeholders on strategic and operational levels.

Germany has also established the CERT-Verbund, an alliance of public and private Computer Security Incident Response Teams, or CSRITs. Each is responsible for its own constituency, but they share information and support one another in incident handling, the report stated.

In some countries, governments have encouraged cooperation by taking a decentralized approach to protection. Sweden, for example, leaves the identification of vital services and critical infrastructures, the coordination and support of operators, regulatory tasks and measures for emergency preparedness to various agencies and municipalities, the report said.

The country set up the Cooperation Group for Information Security to foster communication among the different groups responsible for critical information infrastructure protection. The group meets several times a year to discuss national information security.

Other countries, however, are more centralized. France's ANSSI is the main authority for information system defense and can order its "Operators of vital importance" to comply with security measures and other requirements.

A third structure is co-regulation, such as the Netherlands's approach. Its National Cyber Security Centre, or NCSC, serves as a central information hub and cybersecurity specialist. "The NCSC consists of several partnerships between public and private actors, such as various Information Sharing and Analysis Centres and the ICT Response Board which analyzes the situation during a large-scale IT crisis or threat," the report said. "The NCSC emphasizes that cooperation with private stakeholders is based on equality and trust."

Overall, the report made 11 recommendations to EU member states and the European Commission:

- Increase institutionalized cooperation with the private sector
- Align the management structure for protection with existing national crisis and emergency management structures
- · Participate in or host international exercises
- Establish mandatory security incident reporting
- Conduct national risk assessment
- Use best legal framework practices for protection across sectors
- · Examine the use of incentives to invest in security
- Conduct an assessment of member states' protection readiness
- Support information sharing among states' CSIRTs

For more:

- read the report

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ENISA examines national roaming to mitigate mobile network outages

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Spotlight: Washington, D.C.-area federal offices close early Friday

As a potentially massive winter storm threatens the mid-Atlantic, the federal government announced Thursday afternoon that federal offices in the Washington, D.C., area would close at 12:00 pm on Jan. 22. While the government remained open, workers in the region also had the option of unscheduled leave or unscheduled telework. For more, read the announcement. Keep an eye on the government's operating status early next week with the Office of Personnel Management's alert mobile app, RSS feed or ListServ.

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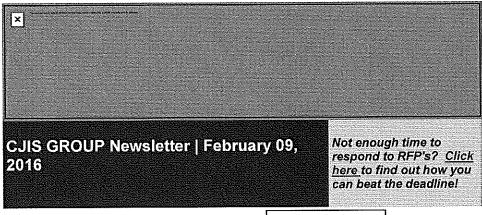
To:

Mellisa Nazzaro

Subject:

CJIS GROUP Newsletter | February 09, 2016

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State & Local News

- Watauga County To Implement Police
 Priority Dispatch System In February
 To Better Serve
- <u>3 Words Can Help You Navigate the</u>
 <u>Smart City Landscape In 2016</u>
- New Website Coming For School
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- Police Departments Turn to In-Car Video Cameras to Boost Accountability, Transparency
- You've Got Mail: The Promise of Cyber Communication in Prisons and the

Developing Opportuniti es

The Drawing Board: Here are some of the newly discovered IT initiatives being planned in agencies nationwide:

Status: PRE-RFP

The New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications on behalf of the Police and Fire Departments will acquire a Next Generation Emergency Services IP Network (ESInet). The ESInet will connect the two Call Routing Facilities (CRFs) and the two Public Safety Answering Centers (PSACs). It will also provide points of presence at several locations around the City to provide interconnection with Originating Service Providers (OSPs). The ESInet will deliver the required 99.999% availability by providing multiple paths between all points of presence and by using redundant, resilient and diverse network facilities. SLAs for Jitter, Latency, packet Loss, system throughput, QoS, and other performance and quality aspects will be

Need for Regulation

- Free Computers for Inmates? It's Latest Deal at Sacramento County Jail
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- Technology Could Help Fight Cell Phone Use in AL Prisons
- Pittsburgh Police Praise ShotSpotter: City May Extend Contract, Expand System

New Smartphone App Lets You Tip-Off Click for opportunity details... Syracuse Police

required.

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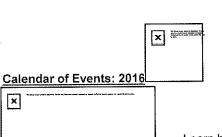
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× CJIS GROUP helps vendors identify new business opportunities involving FirstNet, radio systems and upgrades to public safety communications systems nationwide.

If your company intends to participate in FirstNet projects or other radio and communications initiatives, we would love to show you how you can use our Market Intelligence to uncover these projects and influence the specs through early engagement.

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Industry News

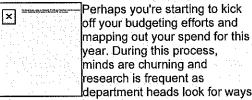
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Time is limited on these open solicitations!

| Agency | Project | Status | Release Date | Due Date |
|---|---|--------|-----------------|------------|
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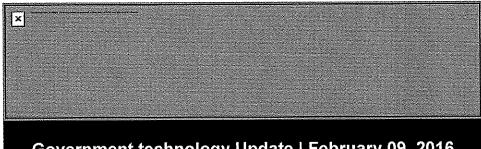
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Tuesday, February 09, 2016 9:24 AM

John Delaney

Subject: Government technology Update | February 09, 2016

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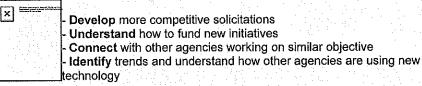
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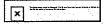
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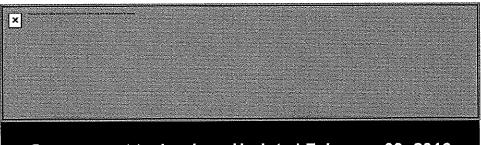
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Larry Brown

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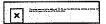


Develop more competitive solicitations

- Understand how to fund new initiatives

- Connect with other agencies working on similar objective

- Identify trends and understand how other agencies are using new technology



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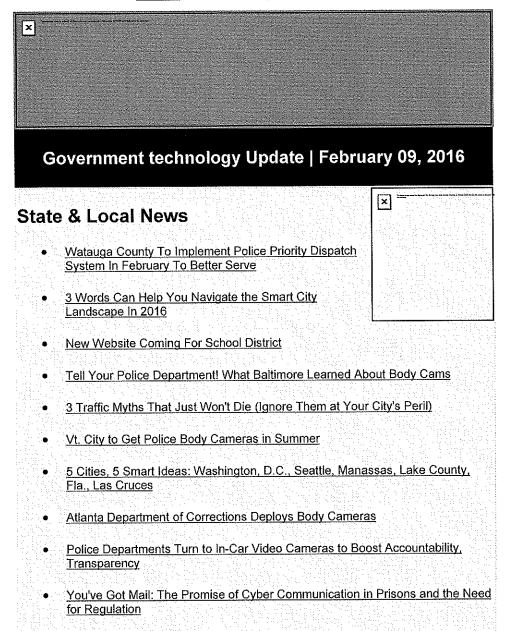
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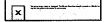
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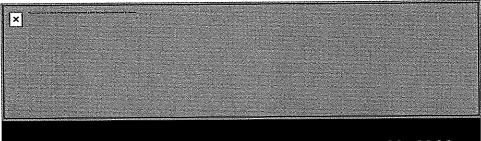
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Funding News

Superintendent: Duval County Needs \$1B for Schools

- Algonac Schools May Be Next To Seek Tax Increase
- Study Shows a Growing County Needs School Funding Boost
- Why Atlanta, Chicago and Dallas are moving From "Apps" To "Frameworks"
- Kingston Springs Seeks Nearly \$1M in Grants

Calendar of Events: 2016



Industry News

- Taser Seeks to Expand Body Camera Platform with new Partnership
- 3M to Hold and Build Health Information Systems Business
- Digital Ally Gets US Patent for Body Camera Technology; Adds Patent to Lawsuit Against TASER
- <u>Tennessee's Madison County and Jackson-Madison County Schools Sign SaaS</u>
 Contract for Tyler Technologies'ERP Solution
- Unisys Offers Stealth Solution Across AWS Cloud, Enterprise
- COPsync911™ Implemented at Nichols College
- <u>lowa to test out new caucus technology</u>
- The State of Web Content Management
- Episerver Named A Top Rated Content Management System By Software Users On TrustRadius
- Sinovel signs smart deal with Cisco
- xG Technology (XGTI) Announces Completion of Microwave Technologies Acquisition
- COPsync to Host Workshop for Texas Law Enforcement and Brand Ambassadors
- Unisys Implements Facial Recognition Technology At JFK



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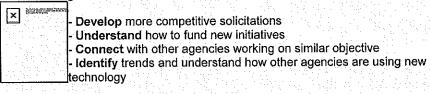
| Agency | Project | Status | Release Date | Due Date |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| South Carolina Department | E-Citation Integration | IFB | 02/02/2016 | 02/16/2016 |

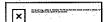
of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

| The Metropolitan Council | ERP System Analysis and Documentation | RFP | 02/02/2016 | 03/02/2016 |
|---|---|-----|------------|------------|
| College of Lake County | Payment Card Industry Standards Assessment | RFP | 02/04/2016 | 02/17/2016 |
| Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LAWA) | Services, Close Circuit Television (CCTV) | IFB | 02/02/2016 | 02/12/2016 |
| City of Boise | Misc GIS Services | RFP | 01/29/2016 | 02/24/2016 |

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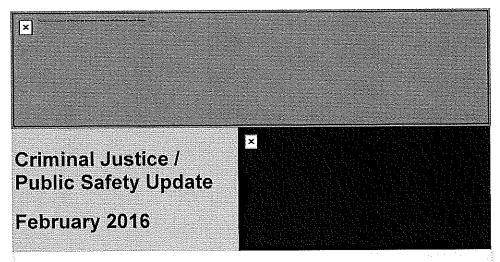
To:

Kathy Brown

Subject:

CJ / PS Edition I February 2016

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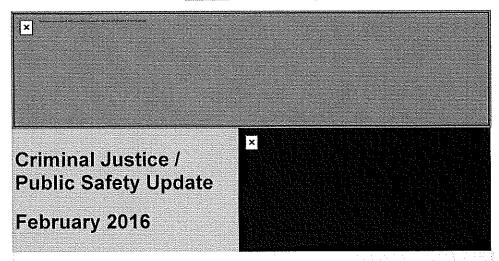
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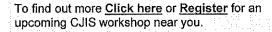
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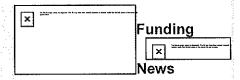
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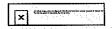
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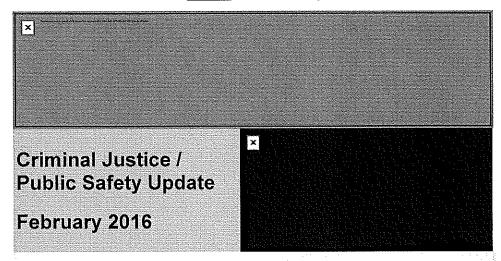
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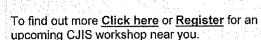
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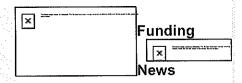
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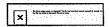
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- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)
 Conference When: March 30 April 02, 2016
- PINNACLE 2016 EMS Leadership When: July 18 July 22, 2016

Access to CJIS × **GROUP Database** The much awaited FirstNet As a **government** RFP was released... Are you waiting to work with state official, you are agencies that opt out of FirstNet? eligible for free access to our database, CJIS How can CJIS GROUP help? Premier. Register and use our database to: We have 98 public safety broadband projects in the planning stages In addition to states waiting on the feds, 39 locals are Develop specifically waiting to see what happens with FirstNet more before moving forward competitiv 191 Communications / Data bids added this month solicitations While it's important to keep an eye on FirstNet, don't let

- Understand how to fund new initiatives
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other opportunities get away from you

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From: Sent: CJIS GROUP, LLC <marketing@cjisgroup.com> Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10:47 AM

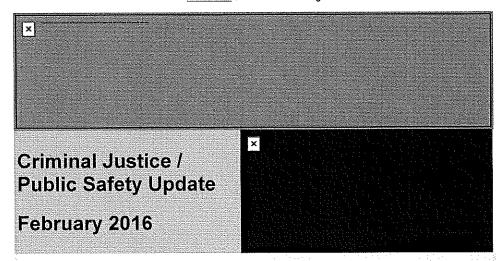
To:

Mellisa Nazzaro

Subject:

CJ / PS Edition I February 2016

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News & Views

- You've Got Mail: | Prison Policy Initiative
- Free computers for inmates? It's latest deal at Sacramento County jail
- State Prisons Turn to Telemedicine to Improve Health and Save Money
- <u>Technology could help fight cell phone use in Alprisons</u>
- Pittsburgh police praise ShotSpotter; city may extend contract, expand system

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- U.S. airports to roll out facial-recognition software to catch fake passports
- New smartphone app lets you tip-off Syracuse police
- New School Safety Technology Assists Michigan Schools With Annual Safety Drill Mandates of Public Act 12
- Medina County Jail to use body scanner
- Drones Deliver Cellphones to Inmates
- City officials announce crime-fighting data center
- OK2Say received more than 2,000 student tips in 2015
- City Introduces Community Policing App
- Camera help: Transparency issues emerge in trend toward more video
- The small ball that's big on technology
- Towns struggling with the cost of police body cameras
- New pilot program provides tablet computers to inmates in the Sanilac County
 Jail
- New license plate reader system in New York village reveals shocking slew of violators
- License Plate Readers and Privacy
- Police use of cellphone tracking faces test in court
- Delhi Police Will Use Space Technology To Control Crime In The State
- Cloud Storage for Camera Data?
- Atlanta Department of Corrections Deploys Body Cameras

- New forensics research center to develop tools to improve law enforcement's investigation capabilities
- Alabama Municipalities Launch 'Smart911' System to Give First Responders More Info
- Police Departments Turn to In-Car Video Cameras to Boost Accountability, Transparency
- Long Beach's Crime Scene Investigation Gets Improvements
- Encryption keeps terrorists under the radar
- Twitter: Social media giant shuts down thousands of ISIS-related accounts
- Editorial: Lawmakers smart to push police body-camera rules
- Cities' greed comes back to haunt them with red-light cameras under the gun
- Bill would greatly restrict access to police videos

Upcoming Events

AWS CJIS Workshops:

Learn how customers are using AWS to solve their CJIS (FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services) IT needs.



To find out more <u>Click here</u> or <u>Register</u> for an upcoming CJIS workshop near you.



- Developing Improved Means to Collect Digital Evidence
- Cold cases could be solved thanks to grant for SHSU researchers
- Chesco fire departments seeking grants for equipment

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Top Opportunities: The Drawing Board - Here are some of the newly discovered IT initiatives being planned nationwide

Next Generation Call Handling

<u>System</u>

Status: PRE- RFP

The New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications on behalf of the Police and Fire Departments will be replacing the Next Generation Call Handling System in order to allow the Department to incorporate next generation applications. The new System will be IP-based and implemented using an architecture and functional components consistent with NENA Standard 08-003 (the i3 standard) and all other related standards developed by NENA, IETF and other Standards organizations. In a typical year, the City takes over 10 million 9-1-1 calls. The peak load the NYPD would like to anticipate is 6,300 calls per hour.

The current call handling system has workstations widely deployed at NYPD, Fire and EMD positions. At the time of the anticipated migration to NG911, the total number of call handling workstations to be replaced is approximately 840, of those, 579 are directly involved in process 911 calls, 155 are used for training, and the remainder are available to 7 other functions across NYPD, Fire, and EMD.

Driver License and Identification Card Production System

Status: PRE- RFP

The Ohio Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), will contract for a Driver License and Identification Card Production System and related service to replace the current contract with MorphoTrust that was awarded August 18, 2008 with an expiration date of December 31, 2016. The contract includes card printers, digital cameras, signature pads, etc.), software drivers (with the exception of DL/ID issuance software), configuration, integration, maintenance, cards and supplies for the system, project plan and a transition plan. The system accommodates activities associated with DL/ID at 218 Deputy Registrars (DR) and Customer Service Center (CSC) locations statewide. The system captures and transmits an existing digitized color photo, and signature.

As part of the contract with Morphotrust, BMV leases the following equipment:

- Datacard SP75 Plus Digitized Printer 478; acquired in January 2009
- Verifone MX870 Signature Pad 1,485; acquired in November 2012
- ImageCam R2000A Driver License Camera About 222 (database issues pulling this number out); acquired in January 2009

Web-based Emergency Alerting Notification System

Status: INITIATIVE

The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs is developing plans to acquire a Web-based Emergency Notification System in order to establish a statewide system that quickly and reliably notifies emergency response personnel, government employees (state, county and tribal) and citizens of emergencies and other critical communications. The System will be primarily focused on providing three capabilities to State, County and Tribal governments for emergency management and incident response; however, the Department will also explore the possibility of adding additional types of emergency alerting including Amber and related Blue and Silver alerts. The three primary alerts will be:

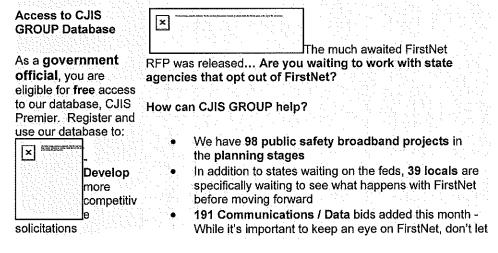
- 1. FEMA IPAWS Alerting
- 2. Internal Group Based Alerting
 - Internal contact and group based (and potentially geographic using internal contact data) system for sending critical emergency and incident response messages to emergency response personnel, government employees and others based on organizational needs.
- 3. Community Emergency Notification Services
 - Citizen centric system for sending geographic based critical emergency and incident information based on phone subscription records.
 - Citizen based system for individuals to opt-in to receive emergency and other important community information. Enhanced by mobile application for convenient access to notifications.

Not enough time to respond to RFP's? <u>Click here</u> to find out how you can beat the deadline!

| ⊠ | ne Deadline: Time is limited on these open solicit | ations! | | |
|--|--|---------|---|------------|
| Agency | Project | Statu | sRelease Date | Due Date |
| Houston Independent School District (HISD) | Two Way Radio with Infrastructure Upgrade | RFP | # F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F | 03/29/2016 |
| Los Angeles Probation Departmen | Comprehensive Electronic Monitoring Services | RFP | 01/29/2016 | 03/25/2016 |
| | Technology and Furniture Components for the Police Command Center | RFP | 02/05/2016 | 02/25/2016 |
| Bucks County Department of | Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System Consulting Services | RFP | 01/03/2016 | 03/22/2016 |
| Emergency Communications West Virginia State | Vehicular Repeaters | RFP | 02/05/2016 | 03/03/2016 |
| Police | | | | |
| | | | | |

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Stone, Andrea

From:

CJIS GROUP, LLC <marketing@cjisgroup.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, March 01, 2016 9:04 AM

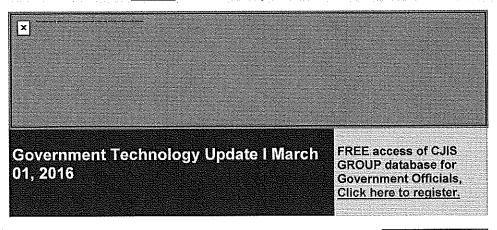
To:

Larry Brown

Subject:

Government Technology Update I March 01, 2016

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State & Local News

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- Verizon Communications Inc. Wins Overall RootScore Award in Nevada- IBM, LAMR
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- Truven: IBM's Latest Buy, Attempt to Push Watson
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Department

Durango Information Systems Division Integrated Access Control and Video Surveillance System

RFP 02/24/2016 03/31/2016

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Upcoming Events:



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When: March 21-25, 2016

Where: Las Vegas Convention Center • Las Vegas, NV



And the award goes to...

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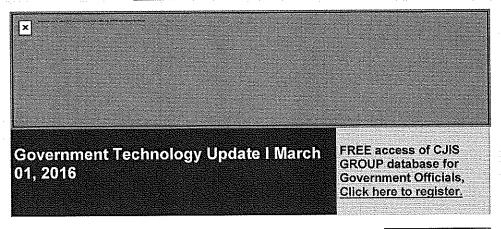
To:

John Delaney

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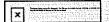
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Sent:

Monday, February 29, 2016 9:07 AM

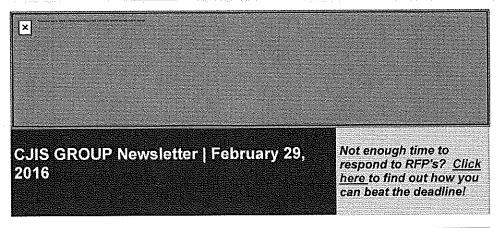
To:

Mellisa Nazzaro

Subject:

CJIS GROUP Newsletter | February 29, 2016

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- More Mille Lacs Broadband Grants Work toward Future
- Grants Provide Extra Money for Hudson City Projects

CJIS GROUP helps vendors identify new business opportunities involving FirstNet, radio systems and upgrades to public safety communications systems nationwide.

If your company intends to participate in FirstNet projects or other radio and communications initiatives, we would love to show you how you can use our Market Intelligence to uncover these projects and influence the specs through early engagement.

Click here to find out how you can beat the deadline!



Time is limited on these open solicitations!

| Agency | Project | Status | Date | Due Date |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|------------|------------|
| Hawaii County Department of Information Technology | Desktop Computer Equipment | IFB | 02/24/2016 | 03/16/2016 |

Release

| Bellevue Information Technology Department | On-Call IT Security Consulting Services | RFQ | 02/25/2016 | 03/18/2016 |
|---|---|-----|------------|------------|
| Lubbock Finance Department | <u>Tablets for Citibus</u> | ITB | 02/25/2016 | 03/08/2016 |
| Durango Information Systems Division | Integrated Access Control and Video Surveillance System | RFP | 02/24/2016 | 03/31/2016 |
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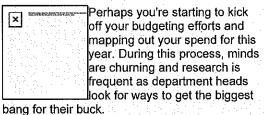
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Bundle up for the winter...



Put CJIS GROUP on your budget "wish list". Click the link below to discuss how to build a better state and local strategy.

Upcoming Events:

IWCE is the premier event for communications technology professionals with thousands of attendees from a diverse group of industry professionals including government, public safety, utility, transportation and business enterprise. When: March 21-25, 2016 Where: Las Vegas Convention Center •

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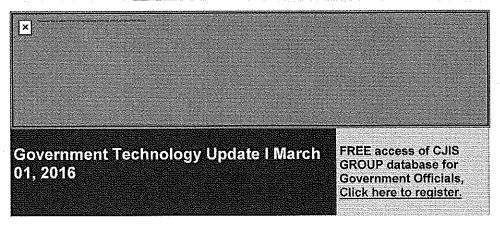
To:

Kathy Brown

Subject:

Government Technology Update I March 01, 2016

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State & Local News

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- \$1.2M System Upgrade for Carson City Public Safety
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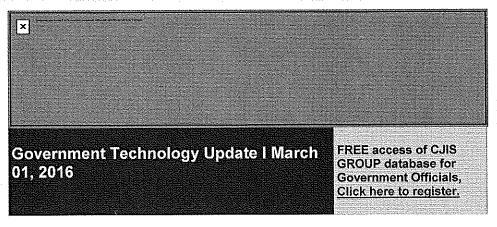
To:

Mellisa Nazzaro

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CJIS GROUP, LLC <sales@cjisgroup.com>

Thursday, March 17, 2016 9:18 AM

NEWS and VIEWS

- FAA Approves Williamson County Sheriff's Office To Operate
 Uas In Under 90 Days
- Super-Precise GPS Could Mean Advances for Self-Driving Cars, Wearable Tech
- Mich Tech prof developing drone to catch other drones
- WISN 12 News investigates flaws in GPS monitoring system
- Body scanner helps Merced County jail catch smuggled contraband
- Maryland county equips some detention officers with body cameras
- Assembly passes bills prohibiting drones over state prisons
- Topeka police officials unveil new emergency center
- Northwest Alabama law enforcement look to open forensics lab
- D.C. offers rebates for installing surveillance cameras to deter crime
- Service to notify victims about offenders via texts, emails
- Pierce County Jail limits connectivity to stronger radio frequency
- Tenn, correctional facilities to offer state IDs and licenses
- Inside the new crime analysis center in Niagara Falls
- How police are capturing rogue drones
- Delaware State Police launch body camera pilot program
- Local, federal, state agencies join to fight crime in new real-time crime lab in Hartford
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- A Message from the President of the National Fusion Center Association (NFCA)
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Not enough time to respond to RFP's?

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DOWNLOADS

Collecting, maintaining and storing video data in the cloud can be expensive – as much as \$1,000 per uniformed officer.

Want to cut that cost by as much as 80%?

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Developing Opportunities

The Drawing Board: Here are some of the newly discovered IT initiatives being planned in agencies nationwide



Status: PROBABLE STATE CONTRACT

The Alabama Department of Corrections have identified the need to acquire two Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems to be placed at the potential new prison facilities. The current Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems utilized by the Department were provided by Indentix.

Click for opportunity details....

Status: PRE-RFP WATCH LIST

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The WCSO currently uses DEA Solutions for their CCTV.

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Click for opportunity details....



The Deadline

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| Hamilton County Sheriff's Office | In-Car Video Systems | ITB | 03/14/2016 | 03/29/2016 |
| Memphis Police Department | Radio Maintenance Asset Inventory System | RFP | 03/14/2016 | 04/15/2016 |
| San Marcos Police Department | Police Video Upgrade Project | RFP | 03/11/2016 | 04/12/2016 |
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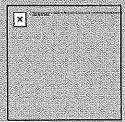
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UPCOMING EVENTS | MARCH



UAV / Brone Use Cases, Threats and Deterrents

UAV / Drone Policy, Barriers & Recommendations

CAPE 2016 Annual Training Seminal

ACCUSTANTAL AND RESIDENCE OF THE

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Status: PROBABLE STATE CONTRACT

The Alabama Department of Corrections have identified the need to acquire two Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems to be placed at the potential new prison facilities. The current Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems utilized by the Department were provided by Indentix.

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Status: PRE-RFP WATCH LIST

The Wakulla County Sheriff's Office is looking to upgrade their Camera Surveillance System. The Office is looking for a "learning" camera system, that dismisses usual occurrences, but are alerted to real activity. The camera system will cover the area of the jail (cell/pod activities), the perimeter of the building, including the inmate Recreation area, as well as the inside of the administration side of the building and investigations annex. The Surveillance system should also include networking and camera equipment. Storage is provided through on-site servers as well as cloud storage.

The WCSO currently uses DEA Solutions for their CCTV.

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Status: INITIATIVE

The Scottsdale Police Department has identified a need to replace the current

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management (RMS) Systems. The systems will provide interfaces to other local, county, state and national systems and meet the requirements of mobile reporting, message switching, case management and data mining. The Scottsdale Police Department utilizes a CAD and RMS that was provided through Intergraph in 2006.

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Today's Top News

1. <u>Backlash from OPM hack could affect census response rate, official warns</u>

Friday, April 8, 2016 | By Eli Richman

Last year's <u>breach at the Office of Personnel Management</u> could undermine the Commerce Department's ability to conduct the 2020 census, said Rod Turk, Commerce chief information security officer, during a Wednesday panel, according to NextGov.

The concern at hand regards the public's trust in government. Commerce is worried that the June 2015 hack of OPM's database, which compromised the personal information of some 21.5 million current and former federal employees, could have deteriorated the public's trust in government to the point where citizens won't want to share their census information.

Citizens might ask, "if the federal government cannot keep my data from a security clearance, why should I tell you my census data?" Turk said.

The department's concerns are not unfounded. While the vast majority of citizens send in their census data, back in 2010 around 6 percent of citizens said they would "probably not" or "definitely not" participate in the 2010 census, according to Pew Research Center. Two percent ultimately followed through with that threat, Tim Olson, a respondent advocate for the census, told the Frederick News-Post.

That's not huge, but it's notable. And slightly higher rates of nonparticipation could seriously affect the census's conclusions, according to Olson. Census data directly affect representation in Congress and presidential elections, federal spending on programs, compliance with federal civil rights laws, and private sector decisions on investment and location of facilities, according to the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Right.

Public trust in the government is also near historic lows, and has been for some time. According to Pew, only 19 percent of citizens said they could trust the government to do what is right "just about always" or "most of the time."

Those low numbers could have a bigger effect on the 2020 census than Commerce has seen in previous iterations. "Public trust is significant in this regard. We're well aware of it," Turk said, according to NextGov.

In fact, this worry even precedes the OPM hack. In April 2014, the Census Bureau started considering changing or removing some of the census questions to which

citizens took offense in 2010, according to Pew.

As for whether census data would actually be at risk of breach, Turk said that the Commerce Department is trying to develop a "cybersecurity culture," and is "laser focused" on three cybersecurity priorities for next year:

- Identify cyber risks using the Continuous Diagnostic and Mitigation program
- Block phishing campaigns that appear to use legitimate email communication to nefariously extract sensitive information
- Advance the Personal Identity Verifications cards system that employees use to gain access to sensitive assets

"Whether or not training and using anti-phishing exercises have any efficacy," Turk said, according to NextGov. "The fact of the matter is that most incursions into our environments come from phishing expeditions."

For more:

- read the NextGov article

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As the contracting community faces rapidly-approaching deadlines under the Affordable Care Act, it has become clear that what's required of businesses in the coming months is hardly straightforward. This eBrief takes a deep dive into deadlines and obligations for businesses to comply with the changing requirements. **Download today!**

2. White House puts the kibosh on encryption bill

Friday, April 8, 2016 | By Eli Richman

A draft bill pending in the Senate would require device manufacturers to include encryption workarounds in their products for law enforcement access, but the White House declined to provide public support for the bill, <u>Reuters reported</u> on

Thursday, citing unnamed sources.

White House opposition would likely doom the bill. While the administration declined to comment on the bill, it did point to White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest's <u>statement last month</u>, when he said, "I continue to be personally skeptical, more broadly ... of Congress's ability to handle such a complicated policy area, given Congress's recent inability to handle simple things."

The draft bill has bi-partisan support with sponsorships from Senators Richard Burr (R) and Dianne Feinstein (D), the chairman and ranking member, respectively, of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

However, the bill also garnered its share of critics on both sides of the aisle. Some worried that a backdoor would ultimately jeopardize user privacy. Others worried that any backdoor mobile manufacturers could install would be accessible to anyone, thereby decreasing security for everyone.

For instance, Senator Ron Wyden <u>wrote</u> in a post at Medium that, "U.S. companies should comply with warrants to the extent they are reasonably able to do so, but no company should be forced to weaken the security of its products."

President Barack Obama gave some insight into his own views on the matter at the South by Southwest festival in Austin last month. At the event, Obama expressed sympathy for the need for a workaround in broad strokes.

"If your argument is strong encryption no matter what, and we can and should in fact create black boxes, that I think does not strike the kind of balance we have lived with for 200, 300 years. And it's fetishizing our phones above every other value," he said.

At the same time, Obama also warned against Congress taking a "sloppy and rushed" approach to solving the issue – a message that perhaps sheds some light on his decision regarding the Burr-Feinstein bill.

The urgency for an encryption solution has cooled off in recent weeks. While the Federal Bureau of Investigations had filed legal action against Apple to gain help unlocking the San Bernardino shooter's iPhone, it <u>dropped the suit</u> in late March, saying it had found a way to access the phone on its own.

But that solution is merely a stop-gap. As the FBI admitted this week, its hacking tool <u>only works</u> on the iPhone 5c, and it's likely only a matter of time until Apple finds the flaw the FBI used and fixes it.

"If we tell Apple [about the flaw], they are going to fix it and we are back where we started from," FBI Director James Comey said at an address at Kenyon College on Wednesday.

If (when?) Apple fixes the flaw, the FBI will undoubtedly find need to access another phone at some point, and the debate will resume in full force. Another option is for Congress to form a National Encryption Commission to further study the issue, but that proposal is unlikely to pass either, according to Reuters.

For their part, tech companies are split on whether a congressional fix is appropriate. Some, like Apple have called on Congress to help find a solution (though not a backdoor) to criminals and terrorists using encryption, while others have opposed any kind of encryption legislation, according to Reuters.

For more:

- read the Reuters report
- read Sen. Ron Wyden's Medium post
- see the Verge article on Obama's SXSW comments

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FBI chief admits hacking tool only works on a 'narrow slice' of iPhones
FBI offering iPhone cracking services to federal agencies, local law enforcement
FBI unlocks San Bernardino shooter's iPhone, drops case against Apple

3. <u>California proposals would increase state government transparency</u>

Friday, April 8, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

California's state government is considering two measures that aim to increase transparency.

One is a ballot initiative and the other a bill, and "each one's supporters say it would cut down on backroom deals," according to an April 4 California Public Radio article.

The bill, written by Democratic State Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, would require that interest groups approach commissioners only at public hearings. It followed the dismissal last month of the California Coastal Commission's executive director — a move activists blamed on pressure from developers behind-the-scenes, the article stated.

"The public is entitled to know what decisions are being made and why they're being made, and to have input in those decisions," Jackson said, according to the article.

The ballot initiative, on the other hand, came from Republican Charles Munger, vice chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, and would require that bills be reviewable for 72 hours before lawmakers take a final vote, the article stated, adding that it will likely appear on the November ballot. Jackson's bill will likely have its first public hearing this spring, according to the story.

But openness comes with tradeoffs, said Bruce Cain, a political science professor at Stanford University. For instance, more transparency makes reaching consensus difficult for lawmakers, he told the news outlet.

"It can put a premium on never compromising and never backing down," he said. "That you're true to your principles, and yet our political system requires that people compromise."

For that reason, he opposed Jackson's bill, but did not take issue with Munger's initiative.

Jackson did, however. She said the delay could impede delicate compromises on legislation, which often come right before a deadline. She added that the public already reviews most bills that go through the California State Legislature, but that the commission is not as transparent.

For more:

- read the California Public Radio article

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Digital engagement on the rise, survey finds

4. White House cybersecurity commission to hold first meeting April 14

Friday, April 8, 2016 | By Fred Donovan

The Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity is scheduled to hold its first meeting on April 14 in Washington, D.C., at the Department of Commerce, according to a meeting notice in Thursday's Federal Register.

The commission <u>was established by an executive order signed by President</u>
Barack Obama in February. It will support the president's Cybersecurity National

Action Plan, which he announced along with his fiscal 2017 budget request.

The success of the commission <u>will require private sector buy-in</u>, Kevin Stine, manager of security outreach and integration group at Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology, told a cybersecurity conference in Washington, D.C., held last month.

According to the Federal Register notice, the purpose of the initial meeting is to discuss the "goals and outcomes of the Commission's work with an emphasis on topics for the Commission to review as it develops detailed recommendations to strengthen cybersecurity in both the public and private sectors while protecting privacy, ensuring public safety and economic and national security, fostering discovery and development of new technical solutions, and bolstering partnerships between federal, state, local, tribal and territorial governments and the private sector in the development, promotion and use of cybersecurity technologies, policies and best practices."

Not everyone is happy with the commission's focus. Patrick Coyle, with the Chemical Facility Security News, criticized the Obama administration for not including industrial control system security in the commission's mandate (pdf), and for the late notice of the meeting, just a week before the meeting date.

The commission is scheduled to deliver its recommendations in December, a month before President Obama is set to leave office.

For more:

- check out the Federal Register notice
- see Obama's executive order (.pdf)

Related Articles:

Obama signs new executive orders promoting cybersecurity and privacy in agencies

Private sector buy-in critical to cybersecurity commission success

5. <u>Autonomous truck platoons complete world's first cross-border</u> journey, traveling across Europe

Friday, April 8, 2016 | By Alyssa Huntley

Autonomous truck platoons <u>have completed the first successful cross-border</u> <u>journey</u>. The six truck platoons traveling across Europe arrived at their destination

in Maasvlakte II seaport in the Netherlands earlier this week.

This is a solid leap forward in autonomous vehicle technology and could prove to be the stepping stone needed to introduce autonomous vehicles into freight shipping and other commercial uses.

In platooning, two to three trucks drive in a single-file line – referred to as a column – along the highway. The lead truck has a human operator, while the trucks following are autonomous and connected via Wi-Fi. The lead truck determines speed and route, which is transmitted over the Wi-Fi connection. The journeys were completed as part of the European Truck Platooning Challenge, an operation put on by Rijkswaterstaat, the Netherlands' main infrastructure design, management and maintenance organization. Truck platooning could potentially be used for freight shipping, the press release explained.

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Wednesday, April 27 | 2pm ET / 11am PT

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Spotlight: Even facial recognition software has a racial bias

Facial recognition software, which uses special camera algorithms to recognize and identify individuals, might have trouble recognizing African Americans, according to a post at The Atlantic. The technology is already being used by law enforcement agencies in Chicago, Dallas, West Virginia, California, Florida and others, but according to the article, it performs between 5-10 percent

worse on African Americans than Caucasians. That could result in law enforcement agencies falsely marking even more African Americans as suspects than they do today.

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Today's Top News

1. White House formally proposes \$3.1B IT Modernization Fund to Congress

Monday, April 11, 2016 | By Eli Richman

Undeterred by a recent budget markup that cut the Obama administration's proposed \$3.1 billion IT Modernization Fund, or ITMF, the White House officially filed a legislative proposal (pdf) to establish the fund on Friday.

The administration had previously included the ITMF, which aims to improve cybersecurity and replace legacy IT systems, in the <u>Cybersecurity National Action Plan</u> it proposed in February.

"The proposed ITMF...will fund the transition to more secure and efficient modern IT systems and infrastructure, while also establishing a self-sustaining mechanism for federal agencies to regularly refresh their IT systems based on up-to-date technologies and best practices," Federal CIO Tony Scott wrote in a White House blog entry released along with the legislative proposal.

However, the proposal may already be dead in the water, as just last month the House Budget Committee <u>rejected an amendment</u> that would establish the ITMF.

Although Budget Committee Chairman Tom Price (R-Calif.) didn't specify the rationale behind the committee's decision, Rep. William Hurd (R-Texas) <u>had said in February</u> that agencies should be individually responsible for modernizing their IT, not a centralized board at the General Services Administration.

Neither the blog entry nor the administration's letter to congressional leaders grappled with the Budget Committee's decision, instead using its space to diagnose cybersecurity challenges facing the nation and detail its prescription in the ITMF.

The ITMF would use five mechanisms to address challenges associated with legacy IT:

- Government-wide prioritization: The fund would use an independent board
 of experts to identify the government's highest-priority projects and to
 replace multiple legacy systems with a smaller number of common
 platforms.
- Self-sustaining funding: The fund's \$3.1 billion would serve as seed funding that agencies would pay back, thus addressing at least \$12 billion in modernization projects in the first 10 years.
- Expert management: Every investment that receives funding would receive guidance from GSA experts in IT acquisition and development.
- Plans to transition to common platforms: The GSA board would identify opportunities to replace multiple legacy systems across agencies with a smaller number of common platforms, something that is difficult for agencies to coordinate individually.
- Strong incentives: Since agencies would need to apply and compete for investments from the central fund, they would be heavily incentivized to develop comprehensive, high-quality modernization plans. Furthermore, since the funding would be relatively stable, those plans could incorporate long-term thinking and shorter development times.

"Ultimately, retiring or modernizing vulnerable and inefficient legacy IT systems will not only make us more secure, it will also save money," said Scott. "As a means of addressing these pressing challenges, the ITMF is an important first step in changing the way the Federal Government manages its IT portfolio."

For more:

- read the White House blog entry
- see the full legislative proposal [.pdf]

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House Budget Committee cuts administration's \$3.1B IT modernization fund GSA administrator makes the case for \$3B in mandatory funding for IT modernization proposal

White House unveils broad strategy for strengthening cybersecurity

2. <u>House Judiciary Committee chairman alters email privacy bill before panel vote on Wednesday</u>

Monday, April 11, 2016 | By Fred Donovan

The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee has made key changes to email privacy legislation being considered by the panel on Wednesday, The Hill newspaper reported on Monday.

Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) circulated a substitute amendment for the bill, which would remove the requirement that the U.S. government notify customers in a timely manner after seizing their emails from an email provider.

The previous version would have forced the government to tell a customer after 10 days that it had received the person's email from a service provider. When the warrant originated from a government entity, the government would have been required to tell the person within three days.

The substitute amendment also would explicitly state that congressional investigative powers would not be limited by the bill, "including the authority to compel the production of a wire or electronic communication," according to the report.

The substitute would also keep the legal distinction between remote computing services, such as cloud computing, and electronic communications services, such as email.

The core of the bill, which has been stalled in the committee for years, would update the decades-old Electronic Communications Privacy Act, or ECPA, to require the government to get a warrant when demanding that companies hand over customers' emails or other electronic communications, the report noted.

The bill would close a loophole in the ECPA, which allows the government to use a subpoena, rather than a more difficult-to-get warrant, to acquire emails and other communications if they are at least six months old, the report explained.

For more:

- check out The Hill article

Related Articles:

Spotlight: Even facial recognition software has a racial bias

Stolen federal equipment puts sensitive data of millions at risk- again



3. VA seeking enterprise cloud broker in cloud push

Monday, April 11, 2016 | By Eli Richman

The Veterans Affairs department is looking to move more aggressively to the cloud, and adopting VA CIO LaVerne Council's "buy first" strategy is an important first step.

In a Request for Information the department <u>put out last week</u>, the VA expressed its desire to acquire an enterprise cloud services broker, or ECSB, "to manage a portfolio of cloud computing services across multiple cloud service provider offerings, supplying VA with a flexible solution for the delivery of cloud computing services."

Gaining an ECSB would help the VA streamline its push to the cloud, a process that involves modernizing its networks, creating development platforms, installing new infrastructure, unifying communications and hosting data.

To gain perspective on that acquisition, the RFI is asking interested cloud brokers to <u>answer five questions</u> detailing their experience and capacity by April 18. The department will then release Request for Proposals sometime during this fiscal year.

"We want to take the opportunity to use cloud to advance and standardize our common IT services initially, to focus around the core delivery, to ensure consistency, to ensure that we have future capacity for growth, to ensure that we have a standard way of delivering our services to our veterans," Ron Thompson, VA's deputy CIO, who is leading the department's cloud effort, told FCW.

In addition to modernizing the department's IT infrastructure, the move to the cloud will also help the VA meet its milestones mandated under the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, or FDCCI.

That's important, because while the agency scored a "C" overall in <u>last year's</u>
<u>Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act scoreboard</u>, it earned an "F" in data center consolidation.

Council <u>testified about the department's consolidation progress</u>, or lack thereof, at a hearing before the House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee last month. At that hearing, she asserted that many of the remaining data centers "will

be eliminated through the use of the cloud, through the use of consolidation of various data and processes, and elimination of certain legacy systems."

The VA currently maintains over 365 data centers and more than 800 custom applications, according to FCW.

The VA isn't the only agency struggling to meet its data center consolidation deadlines. While 47 percent of feds think they will have successfully complied with FITARA by 2021, according to a recent MeriTalk study (pdf), that achievement will come at a cost: Less than 5 percent of federal IT managers believe their agency has the security speed or capacity they'll need to by 2021.

Still, 60 percent of federal respondents said they believed their agency would successfully comply with the FDCCI, which would equate to \$10 billion in federal savings if accurate.

For more:

- see the FCW post
- read and respond to the VA's Request for Information
- check out the MeriTalk study's press release (.pdf)
- see the full MeriTalk study (reg. req.)

Related Articles:

IG: DoD far off track on data center consolidation

VA CIO places renewed focus on cloud, data center consolidation

Cloud first strategy turns 5 years old

4. Oregon, Oracle continue battle over failed healthcare website

Monday, April 11, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

In a long legal battle between Oracle and Oregon over a failed healthcare exchange, the company is now accusing the state of leaking confidential Oracle documents to the press, according to a news report.

Oracle is seeking contempt sanctions against the alleged move, which it said directly violates a court order, according to an <u>article</u> on OregonLive.com last week.

Oracle said the state told a reporter how to remove redactions in documents that hid snippets of damaging content, the article stated. In one document – an email – a company employee referred to the exchange as "something that will never work

well," the article showed.

This latest accusation is one in a string of arguments over the failure of Cover Oregon, the state's healthcare website. Oracle was the primary contractor for the project. Among the six lawsuits filed as part of the finger-pointing, the state filed one accusing the software company of fraud and racketeering, seeking \$6.5 billion in damages, according to the report.

Oracle, on the other hand, blamed the failure on what it said was poor management by the state, and said Oregon is asking for damages that are 27 times more than what the state paid the company for the project, the article said.

What's more, Oracle accused Oregon Governor Kate Brown, who inherited the problem when she took office last year, of agreeing last fall to settle the case for \$25 million and now lying about it. The company filed a lawsuit to force the state to adhere to the \$25 million deal.

The state ended the Cover Oregon project two years ago after years of effort and \$300 million in costs. At the time, then-Governor John Kitzhaber conceded that state held some blame in its management of the project, but also asserted that Oracle had failed to deliver, according to the article. Consequently, he asked the state's Justice Department to sue the company for the \$240 million it had received.

Oracle saw things a different way. The company said it delivered a functional system by February 2013, but that Kitzhaber chose to say it didn't work as a calculated political maneuver, the report stated.

Although Oracle was open in its attacks against the state, it was less forthcoming with documents, classifying 97 percent of the ones it gave the state in the discovery process as confidential, the article continued.

When the state asked a judge to release some of the half a million pages, Oracle accused Oregon officials of wanting to leak them to the media. On Jan. 13, 2014, the state sent copies of its motion to reporters, and that motion included examples of the internal Oracle material it wanted opened, the article stated. The Oregonian/OregonLive ran a story including the confidential material on Feb. 22, and the company immediately shook its finger at the state.

"The notion that [the reporter] may have figured out on his own how to defeat the redactions apparently never entered Oracle's mind," the article stated.

As the case drags on, some are calling for mediation to help put an end to the arguing, according to the article. A mediator has been appointed, but the company has yet to accept him.

For more:

- read the OregonLive.com article

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Also Noted

Spotlight: Diagnosing the taxman's IT woes

The Internal Revenue service still depends on ancient internal IT systems – a modest curiosity considering the agency's robust IT budget and responsible investments, according to a <u>recent post at FCW</u>. In short, the IRS faces challenges including insufficient funding, political pressure, technical constraints, lack of skilled tech professionals and the tax code itself. But the challenges facing the agency go much deeper than that, and it's worth reading the article in full to glimpse the full scope of the problem.

<u>VA pilots new healthcare apps | DOJ wants Apple to unlock another iPhone</u>

> VA pilots health care apps as new push for major reorg emerges

(FedNewsRadio)

- > White House misses big opportunity with open source push (FCW)
- > The Justice Department wants Apple to unlock another iPhone (GovExec)
- > HHS says health records should communicate with each other. What does that mean? (NextGov)
- > <u>Pentagon plans new crackdown on data centers, with emphasis on labor costs</u> (FedNewsRadio)
 - > Army is testing talk-start computers for war zones (NextGov)

And Finally... The Navy christened its first "robot ghost ship" last week. This can only go well, right? (NextGov)

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- 1. FBI says it can't disclose details for iPhone hack to Apple because of thirdparty rights
- 2. <u>Transparency questions follow revelations about lead levels in South Carolina's water</u>
- 3. FOIA 'still interested letters' have uncertain effect on requesters, report finds
- 4. <u>New Mexico's Alamogordo ponders joint PSAP as feds push nationwide</u> <u>NextGen911 network</u>
- 5. <u>USAA is using bots to help its 11.4M customers, but wants to keep the human touch</u>

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Today's Top News

1. FBI says it can't disclose details for iPhone hack to Apple because of third-party rights

Thursday, April 28, 2016 | By Fred Donovan

The Federal Bureau of Investigation does not plan to disclose information about how it hacked into the iPhone of the San Bernardino shooter to Apple, according to Amy Hess, the FBI's executive assistant director for science and technology.

"The FBI purchased the method from an outside party so that we could unlock the San Bernardino device. We did not, however, purchase the rights to technical details about how the method functions, or the nature and extent of any vulnerability upon which the method may rely in order to operate," Hess said in a statement <u>quoted</u> by the AFP newswire.

The FBI paid an undisclosed third-party around \$1.3 million to get access to encrypted data on the iPhone 5 used by one of the shooters in the San Bernardino massacre, according to remarks last week by FBI Director James Comey. Once the FBI was able to access the data, it dropped its legal effort to require Apple to develop a tool to get into the iPhone without deleting the data.

While the FBI did not disclose the third party, an <u>Israeli newspaper reported that</u> <u>Israel-based mobile forensics company Cellebrite</u> worked with the FBI in an effort to unlock an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino shooters.

Some have argued that the FBI should disclose the method for breaking into the phone under a U.S. government policy known as the <u>Vulnerabilities Equities</u>

<u>Process</u> that direct U.S. government agencies to disclose vulnerabilities they discover. But Hess said that "currently we do not have enough technical information about any vulnerability that would permit any meaningful review under the VEP process."

For more:

- check out the AFP story (via SecurityWeek)

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Spotlight: FBI unlocks second iPhone without Apple

FBI ponied up \$1.3M to crack San Bernardino shooter's iPhone, suggests Comey

FBI unlocks San Bernardino shooter's iPhone, drops case against Apple

2. <u>Transparency questions follow revelations about lead levels in</u> South Carolina's water

Thursday, April 28, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

The government in Flint, Mich., is not the only one whose transparency policies are in question after high lead levels were found in drinking water. South Carolina is also under scrutiny after its water regulatory agency told the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that it didn't have data on lead sampling results and the location of lead service lines, a news report shows.

The state's Department of Health and Environmental Control, or DHEC, was responding to a letter that EPA sent to every state about monitoring for lead in drinking water after the crisis in Flint, according to an April 23 <u>article</u> at GreenvilleOnline.

EPA asked each state to work with its public water systems to increase transparency by publishing an inventory of customers who may be receiving water through lead or partial-lead service lines, the article stated.

Every public water system in the country had to take such an inventory when EPA issued the Lead and Copper Rule in 1991 requiring monitoring of lead and copper levels in drinking water, but DHEC didn't require copies of the results, and they may no longer exist, the department's director of environmental affairs said in a March 29 letter. Greenville Water System reported last month, however, that it had fewer than 3,000 lead "goosenecks" connecting service lines to the water main, but it didn't know where they were, the article stated.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley sent a letter March 18 to DHEC's director asking "for a full accounting of its water quality monitoring program specific to lead and a list of communities that have or are currently experiencing elevated lead levels in drinking water and DHEC's plan to eliminate the risk of lead from drinking water systems," the article stated. That was a day after The Greenville News found that DHEC had 28 small or midsize rural water systems that had lead counts

exceeding EPA's action level of 15 parts per billion.

The state is studying the reason for the elevated levels, and DHEC set up the Office of Rural Water to find solutions to water and wastewater problems in such areas.

The USA Today Network, which includes GreenvilleOnline, led an investigation last month that found that lead levels in 2,000 water systems affecting the drinking water of more than 6 million customers nationwide failed to meet EPA standards.

For more:

- read the article

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Environmental sensors, apps could help cities ward off hazards

Flint crisis offers lessons in government transparency

Metro Detroit not taking advantage of high-tech water monitoring system

3. <u>FOIA 'still interested letters' have uncertain effect on requesters, report finds</u>

Thursday, April 28, 2016 | By Stephanie Kanowitz

Sending a so-called "still interested letter" to someone who requested responses under the Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA, has an uncertain effect, an analysis found.

It's tough to measure these letters' effect on requesters, found part 1 of a study (pdf) by the Compliance Team at the Office of Government Information Services, or OGIS, on the use of such letters by the 15 Cabinet-level agencies between fiscal years 1998 and 2014, according to an April 27 blog post by the National Archives' FOIA ombudsman.

That's due, in part, to the fact that no guidance or standard for reporting requests closed using the letters exist.

"Still interested' correspondence is a letter or an email that an agency sends to a FOIA requester asking if the requester remains interested in the requested records despite the time that elapsed since the request was filed," according to the report. "These letters are generally sent to the requester a significant amount of time after the FOIA request is made and inform the requester that if he or she does not indicate interest within a certain time, the agency will not process the

request and will administratively close it."

Sometimes this letter is the first communication that an agency has with a requester, according to the report. "These letters can give the appearance to requesters – particularly frequent savvy requesters – that an agency's FOIA process does not work," it added.

Two types of still interested letters typically go out, the report stated. One seeks a requester's response by a certain time, while the other informs requesters that their inquiry is closed. Customs and Border Protection used this second type to close 11,000 FOIA requests in 2012, although it ultimately had to reopen and process them.

Although the Cabinet-level agencies reported closing an average of about 2,455 requests per year using the letters, they accounted for less than 1 percent of the number of requests processed in all but one of the years OGIS reviewed. The study looked at data from FOIA annual reports to the U.S. Attorney General, including the number of requests the agencies reported closing using still interested letters, the number of requests processes and the number pending closure.

That data does not capture requester frustration with still interested letters, however, the blog stated.

"Ironically, the requesters most likely to be annoyed by correspondence of this type – those who wish for their requests to remain open, and respond by the agency's deadline – will never show up in data about the number of requests closed using still interested letters," according to the post. "As the report points out, available data does not show how long the agency gives requesters to respond or how many times a requester is sent a still interested letter before records are finally processed."

Agencies use the letters to reduce their FOIA request backlogs, but that's an "ineffective strategy," the blog stated, because only three instances showed that the letters led to a reduction in pending requests of at least 3 percent at the end of a fiscal year.

OGIS' Compliance Team will continue to study still interested letters and report additional findings, the blog stated.

For more:

- read the blog post
- read the analysis [.pdf]

Related Articles:

Brewer to become new chief records officer for US government May 1

DoD's FOIA 'spammer' steps forward

FOIA delays at NYC's Administration for Children's Services exemplify issues with request process

4. <u>New Mexico's Alamogordo ponders joint PSAP as feds push</u> nationwide NextGen911 network

Thursday, April 28, 2016 | By Julie Bird

Officials in Alamogordo, N.M., are trying to work out funding and other details for consolidating a public safety answering point, or PSAP, to manage 911 calls for the city police and fire departments and the county sheriff's office, the Alamogordo Daily News <u>reported</u>.

Otero County, where Alamogordo is located, is one of only three counties in the state not receiving funding for a PSAP, according to the article. The consolidated emergency communication centers aren't fully state funded, and a worst-case scenario projection called for the county coughing up \$731,000 for the center and the city paying \$543,000. In all, the project will cost an estimated \$2.28 million, the paper reported.

Interim City Manager George Straface said the city and county are long overdue for a PSAP.

Earlier this year the U.S. House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on communications and technology held a hearing to discuss <u>local preparedness to handle complex requirements and cybersecurity for PSAPs as part of the "next generation 911" system, or NextGen911, the Federal Communications Commission is working to roll out nationwide.</u>

Those requirements are contained in a <u>request for proposals by the First Responder Network Authority</u>, or FirstNet, for a nationwide, interoperable LTE network for public safety. Upgrades in the RFP include setting up PSAPs around the country to receive text messages, images and video calls, and to allow more data transmission between dispatchers and first responders.

The RFP outlined a network covering 56 states and territories with a core network, radio access network, backhaul, aggregation and other means to provide connectivity. The network is to be highly reliable and secure and give local and national public safety agencies "control over prioritization, preemption, provisioning and reporting," according to the proposal request.



- <u>read</u> the article (via Emergency Management)

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NG911 capabilities, cybersecurity concerns take center stage at FirstNet hearing FirstNet issues long-awaited RFP for nationwide network

Cybersecurity emerging as concern for 911 call centers as they become connected to Internet

Tennessee firefighters say they need workarounds to avoid dropped signals with digital communication system

5. <u>USAA is using bots to help its 11.4M customers, but wants to keep the human touch</u>

Thursday, April 28, 2016 | By Alyssa Huntley

USAA, a financial services firm for 11.4 million military members and their families, has plans to employ bots to help automate financial transactions, <u>CIO reported</u>. USAA's efforts in building up this tech underscore the importance of having bots feel more human and less robotic.

USAA CIO Jennifer Sepull told the publication that her firm wants to add messaging to its mobile software. Using this tech, the bank could integrate software agents into its website and mobile app that would initiate events on a human's behalf.

The aim is to have USAA connect with "our members in ways that may be unexpected but let them know that we are there for them," Sepull told CIO.

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Also Noted

Spotlight: After landslide House vote, Senate pressured to take up email privacy bill

The House of Representatives <u>passed the Email Privacy Act 419-0 yesterday</u>, and now elected officials in both chambers are putting pressure on the Senate to take up the bill. "Now that the House has passed this bill by a vote of 419-0, it's time for the Senate to act. We urge the Senate to take up and pass this bipartisan, common-sense legislation without delay," said Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Mike Lee (R-Utah), the lead co-sponsors on the Senate version of the bill, in a statement today, <u>according to The Hill</u>.

The bill would update the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act and require that law enforcement agencies get a warrant before technology companies have to hand over customers' emails or other electronic communications to them.

<u>Are agencies drowning in data mandates? | Library of Congress to retire Thomas</u>

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