FOLLOW-UP ON THE 2021 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSET INVENTORY REVIEW

Report No. MAR-22-03

Federal Labor Relations Authority
1400 K Street, N.W. Suite 250, Washington, D.C. 20424
Follow-up on the 2021 Information Technology Asset Inventory Review (Report No. MAR-22-03)
Follow-up on the 2021 Information Technology Asset Inventory Review
March 24, 2022

The Honorable Ernest DuBester, Chairman

This report presents the results of our follow-up review of the July 2021 Office of Inspector General (OIG) report entitled, “Information Technology Asset Inventory Review” (MAR-21-06). We contracted with the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) OIG to perform the follow-up on the information technology (IT) asset inventory review. The objective of our review was to determine if corrective actions were taken by the FLRA with regard to the one recommendation in our July 2021 report. We conducted our follow-up review and determined the corrective action had been implemented and that the recommendation could be closed.

Background

On July 8, 2021, Dembo Jones, P.C., on behalf of the FLRA OIG issued a report entitled, “Information Technology Asset Inventory Review” (MAR-21-06). Our objective was to conduct an independent IT asset inventory review of the FLRA’s IT equipment (e.g. desktops, laptops, servers, printers, monitors, routers, switches and firewalls).

All agencies within the executive branch of Government will be required to comply with the Department of Homeland Security’s new mandate as it relates to Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM). The requirements of CDM stipulate those specific tools will be deployed thereby ensuring that all hardware and software are accounted for. FLRA contracted with our firm in 2021 to assess the current asset inventory in terms of its completeness and accuracy.

Objective, Scope and Methodology

The objective of our review was to determine if corrective actions were taken by FLRA with regard to the recommendation contained in our July 2021 report. To accomplish our objective, we held meetings with the Director of Information Resources and staff within the office. We also reviewed various artifacts such as updated policies and procedures, and assignments of IT property. We conducted our field work remotely in March 2022. We also held a preliminary exit conference with the FLRA management to discuss our results of the follow-up review.
Results of Prior Year Review

The prior review disclosed FLRA had made great strides in improving their inventory practices. The IT asset inventory policies and procedures have been reviewed, updated, and approved. Position descriptions were updated to ensure that personnel understand their job responsibilities. The review resulted in the one finding below:

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Deficiency</th>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Risk Ranking</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Several laptops were unassigned in terms of who is responsible for the respective equipment.</td>
<td>Without appropriate assignments to all IT inventory items, there is the risk that inventory can be misclassified and/or assigned to the wrong person. This may also lead to lost/stolen IT equipment, as it is not currently being managed in terms of which employee is responsible (assigned) for that equipment such as laptops.</td>
<td>Low</td>
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Prior Year Recommendation

The report recommended that the Director of Information Resources [ensure]:

1. All IT inventory items such as laptops, should be assigned to personnel within the agency.

Results of Review

We found that our recommendation was successfully implemented and we consider the finding closed.

Dembo Jones, P.C.

North Bethesda, Maryland

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Appendix 1: Report Distribution

Federal Labor Relations Authority

Ernest DuBester, Chairman
Colleen Duffy Kiko, Member
James T. Abbott, Member
Michael Jeffries, Executive Director
Dave Fontaine, Director Information Resources