

Results in Brief

OIG 20-07 June 24, 2020

Why We Did This Review

Organizations rely on information technology (IT) to support business operations. An organization's dependency on IT exposes them to compromises from fraudulent and malicious IT activities. These risks could negatively impact business operations, business continuity, financial operations, and reputation. These IT related risks and exposures include "computer security and IT related incidents."

Cyberspace is a technological complex society of networks. These networks include a vast collection of critical infrastructure and key resources that can be potential targets for terrorists. Most of these networks are owned and operated by private sector, state or local government entities. These networks and infrastructures are both physical and cyber-based and span all sectors of the economy. To promote continuity of services and avoid or mitigate business disruption, the federal government, regulatory agencies, and IT industry leaders either require or encourage organizations to adopt and implement a Cybersecurity Incident Response Program.

The audit objective was to determine whether WMATA had developed a comprehensive Breach Response Plan, tested the plan, and established an effective data recovery process.

Audit of WMATA's Data Compromise Response Capabilities

What We Found

The IT Department (1) developed and tested information security contingency plans, including a Breach Response Plan (BRP) and Disaster Recovery Plans, as well as (2) established data recovery processes. However, opportunities exist to improve the BRP and the testing process as well as coordination plans between stakeholders.

Management's Response

WMATA Management fully concurred with the findings and recommendations made in this report. OIG considers management's comments responsive to the recommendations and corrective actions taken or planned should correct the issues identified in the report.

NOTE

THIS REPORT CONTAINS SECURITY-RELATED INFORMATION AND IS NOT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE