




# Memorandum

U.S. Department of  
Transportation

Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation  
Office of Inspector General

Subject: **INFORMATION**: Audit Announcement –  
DOT OCIO Cybersecurity Funding  
Office of the Secretary  
Project No. 15F3014F000

Date: November 10, 2015

From: Louis C. King   
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Information Technology Audits

Reply to  
Attn. of: JA-20

To: Chief Information Officer

For fiscal years 2012 through 2015, Congress appropriated almost \$29 million to the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) to support a number of departmental cybersecurity initiatives. Recent cyber-attacks on Government information systems underscore the importance of maximizing all available funds to help secure these systems. In 2014, DOT discovered that malware designed to steal personal information was delivered to about 5,000 DOT computers via infected e-mail file attachments. This cybersecurity breach resulted in lost productivity, e-mail interruptions, and lost data. Our 2014 review of DOT's compliance with the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002<sup>1</sup> also identified multiple deficiencies indicating that DOT's information systems remain vulnerable to serious security threats.

To ensure funding has been used to address DOT's specific cybersecurity needs, we are initiating an audit of OCIO's oversight of cybersecurity appropriations. Our objectives for this audit are to determine whether DOT (1) adequately planned for its cybersecurity funding needs and (2) expended cybersecurity funds in accordance with congressional direction.

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<sup>1</sup> FISMA 2014: DOT Has Made Progress, but Significant Weaknesses in Its Information Security Remain (OIG Report No. FI-2015-009), November 14, 2014. OIG reports are available on our Web site: <https://www.oig.dot.gov>.

We plan to begin the audit this month and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct our work at DOT Headquarters. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-366-1407 or Kevin Dorsey, Program Director, at 202-366-1518.

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cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1