




Memorandum

Date: February 28, 2023

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement | Review of DOT's Management of Mobile Device Security | Project No. 23T3003T000
Department of Transportation

From: Kevin Dorsey
Assistant Inspector General for Information Technology Audits

To: DOT Chief Information Officer



In 2020, the Department of Transportation (DOT) reported the use of almost 22,000 mobile devices. While mobile devices can increase efficiency and productivity, they can also leave sensitive data vulnerable to increased and more diverse cybersecurity threats, such as mobile malicious software and vulnerabilities that span the device (e.g., operating systems and mobile applications). Moreover, with the increased use of telework, Federal agencies have increased their adoption and use of mobile technologies, adding to the mobile threat landscape.

In 2022, the Office of Management and Budget issued a Federal zero trust architecture (ZTA) strategy, including guidance for mobile devices. A zero-trust strategy envisions a Federal Government where the devices that Federal staff use to do their jobs are consistently tracked and monitored, and the security posture of those devices is taken into account when granting access to internal resources.

Given the increased use of mobile devices within the Department, DOT's transition to ZTA, and the increased cybersecurity risks associated with the use of these devices, we are initiating this audit. Our objective is to determine whether DOT has established and implemented effective controls to manage and secure its mobile devices.

We plan to begin work immediately and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. We will conduct our work at DOT Headquarters in Washington, DC. If you have any questions, please contact me or Stacy Jordan, Program Director.

cc: DOT Audit Liaison, M-1
FAA Audit Liaison, AAE-100