



Draft Meeting Minutes
Subcommittee on Incident Response
June 29, 2022
Virtual Meeting
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Member Attendance (3/11)

DoIT Secretary Michael Leahy (Chair), Linda Lamone (Administrator, State Board of Elections), and Secretary Russell Strickland (Maryland Department of Emergency Management).

Staff Attendance

Howard Barr (Assistant Attorney General & Principal Counsel, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Information Technology), Hannibal Kemerer (Director, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General), and Dr. Greg von Lehmen (University of Maryland Global Campus, Assigned Staff to the Maryland Cybersecurity Council).

Meeting Summary

1. Secretary Leahy thanked the members for carving time out of their calendars for the meeting. In the absence of a quorum, he deferred approval of the April meeting minutes to the next meeting.
2. He provided a number of updates. He noted the many advisories being issued by CISA, the question of how much funding Maryland will receive for cybersecurity via the recent national infrastructure legislation, and the progress that DoIT is making on several fronts. In regard to the latter, he observed that:
 - a. DoIT continues to review the cybersecurity legislation passed last session. One question concerns the annual cybersecurity funding formula—20% of IT spending—and how ‘IT spending’ will be defined.
 - b. DoIT has implemented a ticketing system across agencies with its 24/7 Security Operations Center (SOC). This enables DoIT to track incidents with high granularity.
 - c. DoIT has completed seventy-six of the 108 agency cybersecurity assessments that have been funded. Those remaining will be completed in the upcoming weeks.
3. Secretary Leahy’s updates occasioned some discussion.
 - Ms. Lamone noted that her staff is also studying the recent State cybersecurity legislation. In regard to the new ticketing system, she observed that her agency had not seen much in the way of incidents yet. From a cybersecurity incident standpoint, it has been quiet even though the primary elections. Secretary Leahy noted that CISA had not issued any election-related advisories recently.

- With respect to the new State legislation, Secretary Strickland stated that the first step of his department should be to help local governments assess their cybersecurity preparedness—e.g., whether they have a continuity plan and undertake training. However, he observed that while the legislation provides for a local cybersecurity fund, the actual budget and other guidance is still being worked out. Secretary Leahy underscored how important continuity planning is, noting that it was something DoIT was asking all agencies to do.
 - Secretary Leahy added to his earlier remarks about incident tracking by noting that while the system is working well, DoIT will continue to look at other tools that leverage machine learning to add sophistication over time. Attacks are increasingly complex and subtle, and the tools must keep pace with these developments.
4. Secretary Leahy asked if there were other items that the members would like to discuss. He stated that if there were other questions about the new legislation or any of the DoIT updates, to send questions to him, copying Dr. von Lehmen.
 5. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.