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Ron DeSantis, Governor
Pedro Allende, Secretary

September 26, 2022

Pedro Allende, Secretary
Department of Management Services
4050 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0950

Re: Auditor General Report No. 2022-189, *State of Florida Compliance and Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting and Federal Awards*

Dear Secretary Allende,

Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, requires the Inspector General to monitor the implementation of the agency's response to any report on the Department of Management Services (Department) issued by the Auditor General or by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. The referenced statute further requires that the Inspector General provide a written response on the status of actions taken. The purpose of this letter is to provide updated information on the Department's response to the Auditor General findings and fulfill these requirements.

In March 2022, the Auditor General released Audit Report No. 2022-189 titled *State of Florida Compliance and Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting and Federal Awards*. The report outlined two audit findings and recommendations for the Department. The following pages detail the current progress of the Department to address the findings and recommendations.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Sarah Beth Hall
Inspector General

Enclosure

cc: Sean Gellis, Chief of Staff
Tim Brown, Assistant Vice President of Northwest Regional Data Center
Melinda Miguel, Chief Inspector General
Kathy DuBose, Coordinator, Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

**Department of Management Services
Six-month Follow-up to the
Auditor General Report No. 2022-189**

Finding 2021-061

In our information technology (IT) operational audit report titled *Department of Management Services – State Data Center Operations*, dated March 2022, we noted in Finding 4 that State Data Center (SDC) processes for performing and documenting periodic access reviews for the network, Windows server, open systems, and Oracle database environments did not adequately ensure that assigned access privileges remained appropriate.

Recommendation: We recommend that SDC management ensure that comprehensive and documented periodic reviews of logical access privileges are conducted using system-generated lists of all user and service accounts.

Management’s Six-month Follow-up Response: Due to Senate Bill 2518, the State Data Center (SDC) management was transitioned to Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) on July 1, 2022. Planning for the transition took precedence with the SDC staff, which impeded any progress towards mitigating any of the findings. NWRDC has met regarding the findings, with another scheduled, to formulate a mitigation plan.

Status Based on the Inspector General Review: Open

Finding 2021-062

In our information technology (IT) operational audit report titled *Department of Management Services – State Data Center Operations*, dated March 2022, we noted in Finding 7 that certain State Data Center (SDC) security controls related to logical access, user authentication, and logging and monitoring need improvement to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of SDC and customer entity data and related IT resources.

Recommendation: We recommend that SDC management improve certain security controls related to logical access, user authentication, and logging and monitoring to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of SDC and customer entity data and related IT resources.

Management’s Six-month Follow-up Response: Due to Senate Bill 2518, the State Data Center (SDC) management was transitioned to Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) on July 1, 2022. Planning for the transition took precedence with the SDC staff, which impeded any progress towards mitigating any of the findings. NWRDC has met regarding the findings, with another scheduled, to formulate a mitigation plan.

Status Based on the Inspector General Review: Open