MEMORANDUM

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TO: Members, Legislative Post Audit Committee
FROM: Katrin Osterhaus, IT Audit Manager
DATE: Dec 16, 2021
SUBJECT: Automated Biometric Identification System ABIS IT Project - Update

Our primary aim in monitoring IT projects is to identify when a project is at risk of failure due to scope, schedule, cost, or quality problems. By communicating our concerns to the agency, legislators, and other stakeholders we hope to help improve the project's health. Our secondary objective is to evaluate whether monitored IT projects have adequately planned for security controls.

We have monitored the Kansas Bureau of Investigation's Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS) project since January 2020. This update covers the August-October 2021 period. KBI signed a contract with IDEMIA in July 2021 which moved this project from planning to execution phase. KBI signed a separate contract at that time with "Mission Critical Partners" for periodic Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V).

These IV&V reviews are very thorough and the first IV&V report has been issued. This memo summarizes the main findings from that report, as follows:

Project Scope is in Satisfactory status.

The contract with IDEMIA contains the detailed scope for the project. So far, only one change order has been processed to reduce the number of needed hard card fingerprint conversions, according to the IV&V report. We believe the scope is in satisfactory status.

Project Cost is in Satisfactory status.

The project budget is set at approximately $5.5 million. This includes the main and IV&V contract, as well as other internal costs (e. g. project manager, hardware platform, and KITO fees). At the end of this monitoring period, one change order has been processed. This <u>reduced</u> the project cost by about $330,000.

The ABIS contract has an 18-month warranty from the time the system is deployed. After the warranty period, the contract allows KBI to get maintenance support for about $100,000 a year for up to 15 years.

Project Quality (security, management, oversight) is in Caution status. The signed contract for the ABIS project included security and governance requirements for the system. We are not aware of any changes that would affect the security planning of the project.

The IV&V report noted that project management has not yet reached a regular rhythm. This leads to frustration within KBI and other stakeholders. It makes user communications more difficult. The report? noted delays in setting up a document sharing process to ensure all stakeholders have access to relevant project documents. Status meetings with the contractor have started. However, the IV&V report noted the project does not have formal progress monitoring at the executive or steering committee levels. Without more formalized executive oversight, issues may remain unresolved.

Project Schedule is in Caution status. The estimated completion for this project is early November 2022, based on the milestones listed in the executed contract. The finalized contract allowed 18 months for execution, from early May 2021 to early November 2022. However, the contract was not signed until July.

The initial IV&V report, as well as our observations, conclude that the project has suffered from a slow start. At the end of October 2021, KBI has not yet approved the detailed project plan and work breakdown structure, two fundamental project documents. Without those documents, it is difficult to determine whether initial baseline schedules and milestones can be met. Given the initial delays and issues, the contractor has estimated the project is behind schedule by 6-8 weeks, according to the IV&V report.

The IV&V's report contains several recommendations for KBI to consider to resolve current and potential project issues. We are confident KBI executive staff are committed to do everything possible to address these concerns. The next IV&V status report will be issued when/or/ these reports are done every 6 mos (or whatever truth is)