

## **IT Program Assessment USSS – IT Infrastructure**

### **Review**

The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of the USSS – IT Infrastructure program during September 2011. Program observations include the following:

Sustainment of the USSS IT Infrastructure is a long-term steady state investment. It is a legacy investment that has, over time, increased in maintenance cost and lacked in accuracies and efficiencies. The USSS is undertaking a major infrastructure modernization and application upgrade investment titled, Information Integration and Transformation (IIT), which is expected to absorb the USSS IT Infrastructure. By introducing the latest available technologies and establishing interoperability with currently incompatible technologies, IIT will reduce costs and improve efficiencies. However, IIT will not attain full operational capability (FOC) until FY 2015 at the earliest. In the interim, IT Infrastructure requirements are being addressed daily to maintain core mission support services while currently in Operations and Maintenance (O&M).

There are three significant risks identified that may impact the operational stableness and required functionality of the IT Infrastructure:

- If needed systems engineer is not available then management of systems life cycle will be jeopardized
- If legacy applications scheduled for stabilization use antiquated drivers then they may lose functionality and impact operations
- If the Database and Applications are not integrated properly in the Data Center then the Applications may not function properly
- There is significant dependency on IIT in order to replace the IT Infrastructure and therefore if IIT is not delivered based on the Program plan, additional unplanned funds will be required to maintain the legacy system (IT Infrastructure) and required functionality will be delayed.

### **Assessment**

Having conducted a thorough program review, there is evidence that the program has significant challenges but is well managed. The program is actively mitigating risk and developing sound strategies to maintain capability until replaced. Mitigation approaches include the leveraging of the Joint Duty Assignment program which brings subject matter experts (Systems Engineer) into the program for a defined amount of time and supplement with contract support if necessary. The Program has also initiated the prioritization of core applications modernization based on mission impact. The Program actively participates in the Enterprise Data Center planning and prioritization of database requirements in support of the Data Center activities.

The IT Infrastructure program will eventually be subsumed by IIT once that system is fully operational in FY 2015 at the earliest. To ensure a timely delivery, the Program is actively participating in the IIT Program delivery. IT Infrastructure is also governed by the IIT Executive Steering Committee. The CIO assesses the IT Infrastructure program as Level 4 – Moderately Low Risk.

**Score: 4**