Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

January 2013 OIG-13-21

(U) Further Development and Reinforcement of Department Policies Can Strengthen DHS' Intelligence Systems Security Program

Unclassified Summary

We reviewed the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) enterprise-wide security program for Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information intelligence systems. Pursuant to the Federal Information Security Management Act, we reviewed the Department's security management, implementation, and evaluation of its intelligence activities, including its policies, procedures, and system security controls for enterprise-wide intelligence systems. In doing so, we assessed the Department's continuous monitoring, configuration management, identity and access management, incident response and reporting, risk management, security training, plans of actions and milestones, contingency planning, security capital planning, and systems inventory.

Since our fiscal year 2011 evaluation, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) has improved its oversight of Department-wide systems and established programs to monitor ongoing security practices. I&A has developed and implemented a training program to educate DHS' growing number of personnel assigned security duties on intelligence systems. In addition, progress has been made in collaboration with other DHS components in centralizing the planning and prioritization of security weakness remediation, streamlining system configuration management, and maintaining a current systems inventory. However, we identified deficiencies at the United States Coast Guard (USCG) in system authorizations and specialized training and incident response, contingency planning, and security capital planning at the United States Secret Service (USSS). Also, we identified deficiencies in the Department-wide management of supply chain threats and security capital planning. We made two recommendations to I&A, two recommendations to USCG, and three recommendations to USSS. DHS and its components concurred with all our recommendations. Fieldwork was conducted between April and July 2012. (OIG-13-21, January 2013, ITA)