

CYBERSECURITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Virtual Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Narvaiz called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She introduced herself and reviewed procedures for the meeting including use of the Teams meeting platform.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jason Johnson, Chair
Raja Sambandam, State CISO
Regina Chacon
William A. (Bill) York
Mark Leech

William (Tim) Presley
Dr. Bradley Purdy
Senator Michael Padilla
Dr. Srinivas Mukkamala

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Lorie Liebrock
Michael W. Good
Robert Benavidez

Brigadier General Miguel Aguilar
Cassandra Hayne

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Narvaiz, DoIT PIO
Todd Baran, OCS General Counsel
Bryan Brock, OCS Counsel
Heather Sandoval (DoIT), Dan Garcia (OCS), Joshua Yadao (Deloitte), Todd Glanzer (Deloitte), Will Campos, (Deloitte), Hogan Peters, Joshi Yateendra

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION Ms. Narvaiz called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Leech so moved, seconded by Mr. Presley. There being no opposition, the Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes July 10, 2025

MOTION Ms. Narvaiz called for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2025 meeting. Mr. Leech so moved, seconded by Mr. Presley. There being no opposition the minutes were approved.

4. Action Items – None.

5. Updates from State CISO, Raja Sambandam

Mr. Sambandam stated he had an additional item to report, which was not included on the agenda, that being that the Office of Cybersecurity stepped in, on the cyber side, for Election Security and all went well. He expressed his thanks to the OCS staff, Secretary of State staff, DHSEM staff, CISA staff, etc., who all did a wonderful job.

a. Cybersecurity Advisory Committee Annual Report

Mr. Sambandam reviewed that the Annual Report was submitted on time. Due to the security and sensitive nature of this report it was sent to both the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch, so it is available for review to anyone with appropriate access. He thanked the OCS team and Committee members who worked to modify the report and prepare it for submission.

b. MS-ISAC

Mr. Sambandam stated that after the white paper process was completed and approved MS-ISAC made some changes which resulted in pressing differences, so the white paper process is being

repeated, requiring better reporting from MS-ISAC. Once this is completed things will be put in motion for procurement.

6. Updates on SLCGP Year 1 Projects

a. Project 1 – Policy Development – Todd Baran

Mr. Baran reviewed that a template library is being developed for cybersecurity policies. There is a draft of all the policies which has been published out to stakeholders. Two stakeholder engagement sessions have taken place addressing the first ten policies, with stakeholder input being incorporated. The anticipation is that the next two stakeholder meetings will take place by the end of the year, with the total of 20 policies available to State agencies in early 2026, which will be followed by a meeting to revise those templates for local governments. He added that there has been great participation in the stakeholder groups from local government representatives, so many ideas specific to those entities are already being incorporated in the templates. He stated that he hopes to be sharing these with the provider community very soon.

b. Project 2 – NCSR – project closed (no update)

c. Project 3 – ASM and VMASS – project ongoing (no update)

d. Project 4 – Cybersecurity Training – project ongoing (no update)

e. Project 5 – Cybersecurity Workforce Development Planning – Bryan Brock

Mr. Brock reported that 17 responses were received from vendors to the project RFQ, which is a good number, and these responses are currently being reviewed, which will require some time. As stipulated by the Committee, the quality and feasibility of the project plan and the vendor's proposed approach are being assessed, in addition to their technical expertise, their relevant experience, their cost proposal to determine its efficiency and value, their past performance and references, as well as compliance with the overall submission requirements. He stated that once this review is completed the top 3-5 vendors will be scheduled for interviews, as requested by the Committee, with Committee members receiving invitations to those interview sessions. He added that participation by Committee members in these interviews is vital. He again stated that once OCS has completed the review process this information will be sent out to Committee members.

Dr. Purdy had a question about item 6b, which is NCSR. He noted that CIS and ISAC have said they will not be doing NCSR, but CISA has not mentioned this. He asked whether this Committee will be picking this up with a plan to replace NCSR for members, or what the thought process is for Project 2.

Mr. Sambandam stated that the state has implemented Risk Assessment through the GRC platform, which many executive agencies have already completed. He added that pilots are being done with local governments, with one of the larger counties having already completed preliminary testing of this, with another large county interested and scheduled to meet with OCS tomorrow. He also reported that the water and wastewater authorities are currently in the process of completing the risk assessment. In lieu of NCSR, which may not be funded through federal mandates or programs for CISA to continue, the state will stand in and provide those GRC related risk assessments so a mechanism will be in place.

Dr. Purdy asked if the service being provided to say counties will be guided by Securin, or by the contractor who has the Risksoft software which was used last year.

Mr. Sambandam stated that there are two aspects to this. First, the product is out there and is being evaluated for local entities such counties and municipalities, to get onboarded. The vendor will be responsible for the operational guidance within the application, with OCS standing in to address any other foundational questions, things related to narratives and things behind the control assessment itself. Securin, as part of their service offering, will make sure that security controls over documentation is appropriate.

Dr. Purdy thanked Mr. Sambandam for his clarification and work regarding this area of concern.

7. Updates from Engagement Subcommittee – Joshua Yadao (in the absence of Mr. Benavidez)

a. Cybersecurity Plan Updates

Mr. Yadao stated that the Subcommittee is currently updating the Statewide Cybersecurity Plan.

b. SLCGP Year 2 Projects

Mr. Yadao also reported that the interest form is being updated in an effort to estimate the number of entities interested in the VMASS and ASM services through Securin for year 2 funding.

Ms. Narvaiz called for questions.

Dr. Purdy asked if the grant was obtained for the current year. Mr. Baran replied that yes, and this is currently in year two. Dr. Purdy asked if the funds have already been received. Mr. Baran explained that it is a reimbursement process, with approval having been given for full allocation of the state funding for year two of the program. The sequence is that this Committee establishes the projects, gets local governments onboarded to these projects, expenditures are made and then submission for reimbursement is made. Dr. Purdy thanked Mr. Baran for his response.

Mr. Sambandam explained that reimbursement is done through Homeland Security, which is the SAA or administrator of the program. He added that the process for year one has been completed and reviewed by CISA with a “clean sheet of health”, with CISA expressing their appreciation for the excellent reporting/paperwork provided. The financial side also came out with flying colors.

With respect to Year 3, which is already in motion, Mr. Sambandam stated that Committee members can help OCS by extending their support during the legislative session, because the state portion of this commitment will need to be provided in the appropriations for OCS. Mr. Sambandam asked Mr. Baran if he had any additional information or comment regarding this.

Mr. Baran noted that for Years 1 and 2 the federal government waived the state cost-sharing, but for Years 3 and 4 there will not be a cost-sharing waiver, so the upcoming state budget session is very critical in order to obtain the matching funds for this grant for Years 3 and 4.

Dr. Purdy asked what mechanisms members should use to provide this support; send emails, ask their department secretaries to voice support to the Governor, etc.? Mr. Sambandam replied that yes, these activities would be appreciated as well as attending Finance Committee meetings, with the next meeting occurring on the 17th at 4:00 p.m. He added that any physical (meeting attendance) or documented support for OCS would be helpful. Dr. Purdy stated he would see what he can do in this regard.

8. Member Comments

Ms. Narvaiz opened this section to any members who had additional comments they wished to share with the Committee.

As an extension of the discussion to item 7, Mr. Sambandam extended an invitation to Committee members to attend the LFC meeting on the 17th in support of the state cost-share funding for Year 3 of the grant, or if unable to attend to send emails in support of this. He stated that all support is welcome and appreciated.

Senator Padilla thanked members of the Committee for their service here. He asked if the meeting to discuss the legislative agenda for the coming year had been mentioned. Mr. Sambandam stated that this has not been mentioned in this forum, however, he can provide an update.

Mr. Sambandam reported that OCS has met with the Science, Technology and Telecommunication Committee three times and DoIT has met with them twice, with one meeting being a collaborative. At these meetings areas were presented where state support is needed in terms of funding and potential growth in terms of extending services to counties, municipalities, K-12, higher education, water and wastewater authorities. This budget has been submitted through executive support to the legislative bodies with the hearing for the budget request on the 17th, which is the LFC meeting mentioned previously. Mr. Sambandam asked Senator Padilla if there were any specific areas he would like to address. Senator Padilla stated he just wanted to make sure the Committee was aware of the work being done to craft this budget package. Senator Padilla asked Mr. Sambandam if he had been able to contact the Governor's office and whether they had been able to give any additional guidance. Mr. Sambandam replied that it is a work in progress and he does not have an update at this time, but will share information as it becomes available to this Committee as well as the Advisory Committee. Senator Padilla thanked Mr. Sambandam for the work being done.

Mr. Sambandam explained that the work the Senator is referring to is the changes to the Cybersecurity Act, how to further strengthen it and what other options could be considered in light of how other states are addressing this. He added that the number of cybersecurity incidents is rising and the cost of mitigating these incidents is also rising. One question is how to fund this, as well as other options which should be considered.

Dr. Purdy asked if there are any major changes being requested. Mr. Sambandam noted that there are two committees operating concurrently, one established prior to the creation of the Cybersecurity Act and one created after the Cybersecurity Act. He commented that some efficiency could be gained by bringing them together and this is one element being actively pursued. The second element is to meet the NOFO for Year 3, Year 4 and beyond. He explained that in reference to "beyond" there is federal legislation in process called the "Pillars Act", which currently reads that 60% of the grant will be provided from the federal side and 40% to be shared by the state. This piece of legislation he believes has already been passed by the House of Representatives, and of course will need to make it through the entire legislative process and then signed by the President. He added that any requirements included in this process will also need to be aligned with the Committee responsibilities, so these are the elements currently being worked on. The intention of the Pillars Act is to extend the SLCGP funding opportunity for the next 10 years, so robust mechanisms need to be in place with respect to roles, responsibilities, level of authority, etc., with the goal of a unified approach which will provide opportunities for scale and the state can realize economies of scale by consolidating some functions, which can provide a unified risk approach to cybersecurity, AI and any other emerging technologies. Mr. Sambandam asked Dr. Mukkamala if he would like to give additional information.

Dr. Mukkamala commented that he has been working with Chairman Andrew Gabarino, the Congressman from New York who is a very strong supporter of this work, as well as ranking member Eric Swalwell from California, both of whom have been instrumental in support of this. He stated that members of Congress believe the state, local and current infrastructure is vulnerable and they see the need to continue supporting this, and this is a reauthorization to share critical infrastructure. He added that New Mexico has been at the forefront of the national scene and in the last 12 months he had actually briefed Congress four times and gave details of these briefings. He thanked Senator Padilla, other members of the Legislature, the Speaker, the Governor's Office and the Governor herself for their support. He stated he would be happy to report back as the Committee so wishes.

Chair Johnson thanked Dr. Mukkamala for his report. He then recognized Dr. Purdy.

Dr. Purdy asked Dr. Mukkamala about his background, which Dr. Mukkamala kindly provided.

Dr. Purdy asked Mr. Sambandam what the mechanism would be with respect to the existing two committees.

Mr. Sambandam stated that these would be merged, making sure appropriate representation is maintained, the composition of the committee membership aligns with the legislative intent and also meets the requirements of the NOFO. Mr. Sambandam asked Mr. Baran if he had any additional explanation of this.

Mr. Baran stated that in order to qualify for the SLCGP funding the State needs to have a cyber committee which has members from certain sectors across the government. This Committee was established to meet those requirements, however, the statutory committee, as the law was originally proposed would have mirrored those requirements, but during the legislative process characters were moved which produced a committee that did not meet the requirements of the SLCGP. He stated that the vision is to go back to the original formulation, have the statutory committee meet the requirements for the SLCGP, which will give the Governor the discretion to retire this Committee so there is no longer duplication. He stated again that this Committee currently meets those requirements and it is the composition here which needs to shift into statute.

Dr. Purdy commented that it appears that some members of this Committee may or may not be moved over to the other committee, just as when the other committee was formed. Mr. Baran agreed that this is a possibility. Dr. Purdy thanked Mr. Sambandam and Mr. Baran for this clarification.

Mr. Sambandam thanked the Chair, members of the Committee, Senator Padilla and Dr. Mukkamala for the insights, feedback and transparency they bring to the table for this conversation.

9. Public Comment(s)

Chair Johnson noted that there were no members of the public present at this time.

10. Adjournment:

MOTION There being no further business before the Committee, Ms. Narvaiz called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Leech so moved, seconded by Mr. Presley. There being no opposition to the motion the meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

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