OFFICIAL HHS-OIG OCIO POLICY ON TRANSITIONING TO IPv6

TO: Christi A. Grimm
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             Department of Health and Human Services

FROM: Gerald J. Caron III
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SUBJECT: HHS-OIG Complete Transition to Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)

In accordance with [Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum 21-07 (M-21-07)](#) dated November 19, 2020, by fiscal year (FY) 2023, all new HHS-OIG information systems must be Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) enabled at the time of deployment. Memorandum 21-07 requires all newly deployed systems to be capable of converting to IPv6 (or be IPv6-ready) by 2023, and any systems installed in 2023 or later should be deployed with IPv6 already enabled. It is also the strategic intent of HHS-OIG's Office of Management and Policy to phase out use of IPv4 for all current HHS-OIG systems as soon as practical by meeting the milestones laid out by M-21-07 to include at least 80 percent of IP-enabled assets on HHS-OIG networks operating in IPv6-only environments by the end of FY 2025.

This memorandum designates La Monte Yarborough, Director of the Operations Management Division, HHS-OIG Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), as the leader of the IPv6 Integrated Project Team (IPT) to coordinate these actions. IPT is responsible for developing and overseeing the overall IPv6 transition plan that shall be inclusive of strategies, acquisitions, processes, status, and milestones. Additionally, system owners shall ensure that system documentation details plans for transitioning to IPv6 and that these plans align with the overall IPv6 Implementation Plan.

In support of this mandate, designated key stakeholders must:

- Provide strategies, processes, status, and milestones for inclusion in the overall IPv6 Implementation Plan.
- Collaborate with other HHS-OIG stakeholders to identify opportunities for IPv6 pilots on operational systems and nominate them to the IPT.
- Oversee implementation of the IPv6 Implementation Plan.
- Work with HHS-OIG-OCIO to ensure that processes for approving new systems for operation, or upgrading existing systems, include a review of the system's IPv6 readiness to ensure consistency with the overall IPv6 Implementation Plan.
- Work with HHS-OIG-OCIO and the Acquisitions Department to ensure processes are in place that require all new agency acquisitions be capable of operating in an IPv6-only environment by the milestones established in the implementation plan.
- Ensure that appropriate acquisitions guidelines are in place to ensure all IT systems, tools, software, hardware, etc. purchased are IPv6 compatible.
- Ensure appropriate project requirements during all new IT systems designs, transformations, migrations, or upgrades so that IPv6 compatibility is "built in" to the project.
- Ensure that proper funding is set aside for the execution of IPv6 conversion initiatives.
- Ensure that systems that cannot be converted to IPv6 are identified, documented, and designated as whether they will be upgraded, replaced, or removed and/or retired, and by which approximate dates. These systems shall be reviewed and discussed by the IPT for further analysis. System Owners will be expected to monitor and periodically report their progress to the IPT.

For questions regarding this memorandum, please contact La Monte Yarborough at LaMonte.Yarborough@oig.hhs.gov.

References: OMB Memorandum M-21-07

Signed **GERALD CARON** Digitally signed by GERALD CARON
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