COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: December 15, 2021

To: Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson
               Supervisor Sequanna Taylor, Chair, Committee on Audit

From: Jennifer L. Folliard, Director of Audits

Subject: Combined Status Report - Audits of Cybersecurity and Controls over Physical Access
               to Data Centers

In June 2016, we provided an overview of the informational report "Audit of Cybersecurity" (File No. 16-352) to the Committee on Finance and Audit. Due to the confidential nature of the findings and recommendations in the report, our overview was presented in closed session. The work underlying the report was conducted by Experis Finance, Risk Advisory Services (Experis) under a contract with our office.

In January 2017, we presented a separate, informational report, "Cybersecurity Audit: Controls over Physical Access to the County Data Centers" (File No. 17-78) conducted by the Audit Services Division. This report was also discussed in closed session.

Both audit reports set forth a series of recommendations focused on improving internal controls relating to data security at Milwaukee County. A status report describing the Information Management Systems Division's progress toward implementation of the Experis recommendations was presented in closed session at the Committee's meeting in December 2016. Since then periodic combined (Experis and Data Center Access) status reports have been provided in closed session at the Finance and Audit Committee meetings.

In conjunction with its observations associated with its annual audit of the County's financial statements, the CPA firm of Baker Tilly offered internal control recommendations in reports issued in 2019 and 2020. Among the firm's recommendations were three involving confidential cybersecurity related matters. These three recommendations are included in this status report for follow-up.

Due to the detailed and sensitive nature of the individual recommendations, this status report notes the general progress made toward implementation of the combination of recommendations from both audit reports as well as the Baker Tilly internal control recommendation.

Following is a summary of the progress toward implementation of recommendations reported by the Information Management Systems Division (IMSD) as of December 2021:

Summary: Status of Implementation of Audit Recommendations			
		Status	
Report	**Type of Recommendation**	**Open**	**Complete**
Experis	General (longer term infrastructure)	1	2
Experis	Internal Network Vulnerabilities	0	20
Experis	External Network Vulnerabilities	0	17
Audit Services	Data Center Access Controls	0	10
Baker Tilly	Access Controls, Disaster Recovery, Version Control	2	1
	Total	**3**	**50**

Based on recent updates provided by IMSD management, only 3 recommendations remain open and IMSD plans to complete them in 2022.

Due to the confidential nature of the information associated with the recommendations, we request that our overview be presented in closed session.

This status report is informational and due to the nature of the remaining efforts required to fully implement the open recommendations we plan to provide the next combined status report for the July 2022 committee cycle.

Jennifer L. Folliard

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JLF/PAG/cah

cc: Scott B. Manske, CPA, Milwaukee County Comptroller
      Audit Committee Members
      David Crowley, Milwaukee County Executive
      Aaron Hertzberg, Director, Department of Administrative Services
      Lynn Fyhrlund, Chief Information Officer, DAS - IMSD
      Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board Staff
      Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director, Office of the Comptroller
      Janelle Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the Milwaukee
        County Clerk
      Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the Milwaukee County Clerk