



Commissioners Court Workshop

IT Security Initiatives and
Acceptable Use Agreement
April 12th, 2022

PURPOSE

To provide an update on cybersecurity initiatives and obtain Commissioners Court approval on the Fort Bend County Information Technology Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA)



Background

- Most data breaches and cybersecurity attacks are caused by human error.
- President's statement on cybersecurity. County Judge's Feb 25th email.
- Education, awareness, and training are the keys to prevention.
- Texas House Bill 3834 – All state and local government employees, including elected officials are required to take cybersecurity training.
- Texas House Bill 1118 – Amends the cybersecurity training requirements primarily affecting law enforcement.
 - (a-2) Authorizes the governing body of a local government to deny access to the local government's computer system or database to an individual.
 - Sec 772.012(c) A local government awarded a grant not complied with the cybersecurity training required shall pay to this state an amount equal to the amount of the grant award and is ineligible for another grant until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible.



Cybersecurity Initiatives

- User Education, Awareness, and Training
- 24/7 Security Operations Center to Augment the 5 members of the IT Security Team
- Implementing CISA and NIST best practices:
 - New Employee Training
 - Wireless Security
 - Network Security
 - Work From Home
 - Third Party Management
 - Internet Security
 - Incident Response
 - Backup and Recovery
 - Two Factor Authentication
 - Email Security
 - Encryption
 - Identity Access Management
 - Endpoint Security
 - Red Team Exercise
 - Protect Critical Infrastructure



....But we need your help

- **What are we asking?** Approve our Acceptable Use Agreement which mandates and enforces 100% compliance with HBs 3834 and HB 1118. The AUA also authorizes removing network access for those employees who are non-compliant, creating a new County email address for Employees that transfer to another department, and implementing session timeouts.
- **How are we getting the word out?** Information Technology is sending email reminders, reports to Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Department Coordinators, and updates in our newsletters.



Cybersecurity Training Completion as of 4/12/22



What is the Risk?

- Untrained employees increase our attack surface which could lead to a breach in data, compromised credentials, and ransomware attacks.
- Non-Compliance with HB 1118 means we lose grant funding. Several Elected Officials and Departments will be impacted. Three examples are:
 - **Juvenile Probation:** *would lose a Victim Liaison Officer* position within CSCD at \$159,043 drastically reducing the number of victims of crime served through CSCD *and limit the number of clients served through the drug court programs*
 - **District Attorney:** *would lose 10 positions and 7 grants for over one million dollars in grant projects.*
 - **County Auditor:** Subject to *Bond-rating impact*
 - **SO:** Will affect the *five pending grants they have with the Office of the Governor*





Questions?