

## Office Hours: April 2021

### Risk Management

Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00PM ET (DOR) and 3:00PM ET (FED/AG/SWA/DOT)

Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at 1:00PM ET (HS/ACA) and 3:00PM ET (CS)

- 1. When will the IRS publish the new Publication 1075?**
  - a. IRS Safeguards is revising Publication 1075 and will send it to agencies for comments. We don't have a final release date yet.
- 2. Will the IRS send the new draft Publication 1075 to agencies for comments through the IRS Safeguards email?**
  - a. Yes, IRS Safeguards will send it through the Safeguards mailbox.
- 3. How long will agencies have to submit comments on the draft Publication 1075? Is there any flexibility on that turnaround time? Would this get released to the federal register at some point, or is it just going to the agencies and released once filed?**
  - a. IRS Safeguards will release the publication once it's final. We'll ask for a one to two-week comment period. If agencies need more time, we can add more time.
- 4. Will we see what the changes are compared to the current Publication 1075 version? Or will it be a new version, and we'll need to compare it to the current version?**
  - a. The new version will list changes from the current version.
- 5. Were any additional changes made to the revised Pub 1075 that weren't included in the 2019 draft?**
  - a. Yes. NIST 800-53b had a lot of undefined controls, so we had to decide on whether to include those controls or not.
- 6. Is there any way to find out what your agency risk factor is in comparison to other agencies?**
  - a. We keep this private and have no plan to share it with any of the state/federal/local agencies. The listing changes every quarter after we run the risk model, so an agency's positioning might change the next time we run the risk model. The bigger focus is to develop information to help all agencies (e.g., identifying trends).
- 7. Will you provide a copy of the PowerPoint presentation?**
  - a. We'll send the PowerPoint with the summary of questions/answers in about two weeks.
- 8. We're about to implement a consolidated data center, and I was wondering if there are any implementation request forms that I should be aware of?**
  - a. Yes, you can find a link to the form on IRS.gov.

- 9. Do you have a proposed schedule for audit reviews for the next year since you may have pushed some back due to COVID-19?**
- a. We send notices out as far in advance as possible. Generally, you would receive a 120-day notice before the review. Right now, we're still doing remote assessments due to the pandemic. We're finalizing the fiscal year 2022 review schedule. If you have specific questions about your agency's review, please send them to the Safeguard's mailbox at [SafeguardReports@irs.gov](mailto:SafeguardReports@irs.gov).
- 10. Last year we were told agencies couldn't do internal inspections remotely because it wasn't approved. Has this changed?**
- a. No, internal inspections cannot be conducted remotely. Currently, we are allowing self-certification of all noncontractor sites due to the pandemic.
- 11. I noticed the new SCSEMS have posted but not the audit Nessus files. Do we have a timeline for this to prepare for the next audit?**
- a. We've sent Nessus files for posting to the website. If you need something right away, please send a message to the IRS Safeguards mailbox at [SafeguardReports@irs.gov](mailto:SafeguardReports@irs.gov).
- 12. We have our review coming up next month. Are we still using the current version of the SCSEMS and Nessus scans? When they do get posted, will the IRS send notification to the agencies? Is the expectation that any reviews from that point forward will be with the new SCSEMS?**
- a. Yes, you're using the current versions. If the new version isn't posted, we're not going to expect you to run them. A notification will go out to all agencies with a link to the new version. Once we send the notification, they're in use.
- 13. How much time after release of the revised Publication 1075 does an agency have to implement the new control before it's tested as part of the review?**
- a. We expect to send Publication 1075 for publishing by June 15, 2021. We don't have an exact release date at this time. After publication, we'll update our SSR and SCSEMS with the requirements. When we send out the notification, we'll give agencies a timeframe for when they need to follow the revised Publication 1075.
- 14. Will both versions of Publication 1075 be available during that interim period?**
- a. Yes, we'll have both versions available, but we expect agencies to begin implementing the new control once it's published.
- 15. Has the IRS created insider threat awareness training that agencies can incorporate into their FTI training modules?**
- a. Currently, we don't have an insider threat training program to share with agencies.

**16. What's the timeframe for updating SCSEMS after release of the revised Publication 1075?**

a. Six months.