

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

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Why This Matters

Each year, issues related to information technology (IT) control deficiencies are identified at the component level during the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) annual financial statement audit. Although United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) took corrective action to address its prior year IT control deficiencies, issues continued to be identified that impact financial data. Collectively these deficiencies negatively impact the internal controls over financial reporting and its operation, and are considered to contribute to an IT material weakness at the Department level.

Information Technology Management Letter for the USCIS Component of the FY 2013 DHS Financial Statement Audit

What We Determined

The Office of Inspector General contracted with the independent public accounting firm KPMG LLP (KPMG) to audit the DHS fiscal year (FY) 2013 consolidated financial statement. During FY 2013, USCIS initiated corrective action plans to address some prior year IT control deficiencies. As a result, improvement was made in the area of strengthening controls around security awareness training compliance and privileged system access monitoring. However, during FY 2013, KPMG continued to identify general IT control deficiencies related to controls over security management, access control, and configuration management for USCIS core financial system and associated General Support system. Collectively, the IT control deficiencies limited USCIS's ability to ensure that critical financial and operational data were maintained in such a manner to ensure confidentiality, integrity, and availability. In addition, based upon the results of our test work, we noted that USCIS contributes to the DHS' noncompliance with the requirements of the *Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996*.

For Further Information:

Contact our Office of Public Affairs at (202)254-4100, or email us at DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@oig.dhs.gov