We reviewed the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) information security program for intelligence systems in accordance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act. The objective of our review was to determine whether DHS’ information security program and practices are adequate and effective in protecting the information and the information systems that support DHS’ intelligence operations and assets. We assessed DHS programs for continuous monitoring, configuration management, identity and access management, incident response and reporting, risk management, security training, plans of actions and milestones, remote access management, contingency planning, and contractor systems.

Since our fiscal year 2014 evaluation, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) has continued to provide effective oversight of DHS’ department-wide intelligence systems and implemented programs to monitor ongoing security practices. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has completed the migration of all its sites that process Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information to the Department of Defense Intelligence Information System. USCG has coordinated with the Defense Intelligence Agency to determine the ownership of this system. However, USCG must work with the Defense Intelligence Agency to fully delineate agency oversight responsibilities for the Department of Defense Intelligence Information System enclaves that support its intelligence operation.

We identified deficiencies in DHS’ information security program and are making four recommendations to the Department. We conducted this review between May and September 2015. We are making one recommendation to I&A and three recommendations to USCG. The Department concurred with all four recommendations.

For Further Information:
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