

October 5, 2022

JOHN CIHOTA
DIRECTOR, AUDIT SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

SUBJECT: Audit Resolution Letter: ***U.S. Postal Inspection Service's Oversight of Facility Security and Access Control (#22-037-R22)***

Representatives of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and USPIS management held an audit resolution meeting on September 29, 2022, to discuss management's disagreement with Recommendations 1 and 2 as stated in the September 9, 2022, management response in the subject audit report.

As a result of the meeting an agreement was reached pertaining to Recommendations 1 and 2, which read as follows from the September 19, 2022, final audit report:

Recommendation 1:

We recommend the **Chief Postal Inspector** establish a facility security level determination process that considers all six factors in the Risk Management Process Standard.

The recommendation status will be changed to "Agreed" in both the OIG's and management's tracking systems.

To close the recommendation management agrees to take the following actions:

Although the Postal Inspection Service is an associate member of the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) and coordinates with ISC committee members annually to assess the Postal Inspection Service's compliance with ISC standards and best practices, we are not required to use the standard. The ISC encourages agencies to use their own security standards if they exceed the standards set forth in the Risk Management Process Standard. Management believes the current United States Postal Service (USPS)/United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS) facility security level determination process exceeds the Risk Management Process Standard and offers us greater flexibility in addressing the unique security challenges of Postal facilities. However, management will examine whether all Risk Management Process Standard factors should be applied to the current USPS/USPIS facility security level determination process.

Target Implementation Date: 09/30/2023

Responsible Official: Deputy Chief Inspector, Headquarters Operations – Security

Recommendation 2:

We recommend the **Chief Postal Inspector** redesign the baseline level of protection process to align with the Risk Management Process Standard, to include establishing a baseline level of protection for each facility security level and regularly reassessing the baseline level of protection.

The recommendation status will be changed to “Agreed” in both the OIG’s and management’s tracking systems.

To close the recommendation management agrees to take the following actions:

Although the Postal Inspection Service is an associate member of the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) and coordinates with ISC committee members annually to assess the Postal Inspection Service’s compliance with ISC standards and best practices, we are not required to use the standard. The ISC encourages agencies to use their own security standards if they exceed the standards set forth in the Risk Management Process Standard. Management believes the process used to establish the appropriate level of protection for each Postal facility exceeds the Risk Management Process Standard. Our facilities receive a yearly assessment to modify or change existing security measures. However, management will examine the Risk Management Process Standard related to establishing a baseline level of protection to see if any aspects of that process should be applied to the current USPS/USPIS Vulnerability Risk Assessment Tool (VRAT) used to determine Postal facility security measures.

Target Implementation Date: 09/30/2023

Responsible Official: Deputy Chief Inspector, Headquarters Operations – Security

Sincerely,



Gary R. Barksdale
Chief Postal Inspector

cc: Manager, Corporate Audit Response Management