



Cybersecurity Advisory Committee

2022 Annual Report

December 6, 2022

Prepared For:

CISA Director Easterly

Prepared By:

Tom Fanning, Chair

Ron Green, Vice Chair

On behalf of the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee (CSAC), as outlined in the *FY21 National Defense Authorization Act*, “*The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Director an annual report providing information on the activities, findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, including its subcommittees, for the preceding year.*”



Background:

In December 2021, CISA held the inaugural meeting of the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee (CSAC), a federal advisory committee comprised of 22 members of the nation’s leading experts on cybersecurity, technology, risk, management, privacy, and resilience. The CSAC advises CISA Director Easterly on policies and programs related to CISA's cybersecurity mission. Committee members—with subject matter expertise in various critical infrastructure sectors—provide recommendations to CISA’s Director on matters related to the development, refinement, and implementation of policies, programs, planning, and training pertaining to the cybersecurity mission of the Agency.

2022 Year in Review:

The CSAC convened as a full Committee during quarterly meetings in 2022. In three of the four quarterly meetings, the agenda included a closed session (CSAC members and CISA Director Easterly) and public session (CSAC members, CISA Director Easterly, and public attendees who registered through the Federal Registry Notice). One virtual meeting only included a public session.

1. March 31, 2022: CSAC Meeting (virtual)

The CSAC convened for the first time since the kickoff to provide updates on Subcommittee efforts to date. No recommendations were provided to Director Easterly at this meeting.

2. June 22, 2022: CSAC Meeting (Austin, TX)

The CSAC June Quarterly Meeting took place in Austin, TX. Recommendations were prepared by Turning the Corner on Cyber Hygiene, Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Misinformation and Disinformation, Strategic Communications, Technical Advisory Council, Transforming the Cyber Workforce Subcommittees for full CSAC deliberation and vote. All recommendations were approved by the full CSAC and delivered to Director Easterly. Director Easterly introduced a seventh tasking to the CSAC, the National Cybersecurity Alert System (NCAS) Subcommittee.

3. September 13, 2022: CSAC Meeting (virtual)

The CSAC September Quarterly Meeting took place virtually. Recommendations were prepared by Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Misinformation and Disinformation and Building Resilience and Reducing Systemic Risk to Critical Infrastructure Subcommittees for full CSAC deliberation and vote. All recommendations were approved by the full CSAC and delivered to Director Easterly.

4. December 6, 2022: CSAC Meeting (Cupertino, CA)

The CSAC December Quarterly Meeting took place in Cupertino, CA. Director Easterly addressed the status of CISA’s implementation of the CSAC recommendations. Members also took part in a roundtable discussion on CSAC’s strategic focus for 2023 and received an overview on the CSAC annual report. No recommendations were provided to Director Easterly at this meeting.

Beginning in December 2021, the CSAC was directed to focus their efforts on six Subcommittees. This work continued until Director Easterly requested a strategic pause in October 2022 to focus on 2023 strategy and priorities. During their time of activity, the Subcommittees met regularly to work through the issues with which they were tasked. In November 2022, a seventh Subcommittee was launched to address the tasking outlined by CISA Director Easterly on establishing a National Cybersecurity Alert System.



1. Transforming the Cyber Workforce

Tasking: Focus on building a comprehensive strategy to identify – and develop – the best pipelines for talent, expand all forms of diversity, and develop retention efforts to keep our best people. Find creative ways to educate communities “K through Gray” to develop a better-informed digital workforce and to inspire the next generation of cyber talent.

2. Turning the Corner on Cyber Hygiene

Tasking: Help determine how government and industry can collaborate to identify appropriate goals and ensure strong cyber hygiene is easy to execute.

3. Technical Advisory Council

Tasking: Provide direct feedback from front-line practitioners (hackers, vulnerability researchers, and threat intelligence experts) whose work is vital to the security of our nation.

4. Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Misinformation and Disinformation

Tasking: Evaluate and provide recommendations on potentially effective critical infrastructure related counter-mis- and dis-information efforts that fit within CISA’s unique capabilities and mission.

5. Building Resilience and Reducing Systemic Risk to Critical Infrastructure

Tasking: Determine how to best drive national risk management and determine the criteria for a scalable, analytic model to guide risk prioritization.

6. Strategic Communications

Tasking: Focus on evaluating and making recommendations on expanding CISA’s reach with critical partners to help build a national culture of cyber resilience. Help promote CISA as a willing and collaborative partner, working arm-in-arm with partners to understand, manage, and reduce risk to our cyber and physical infrastructure.

7. National Cybersecurity Alert System

Tasking: Focus on the feasibility of an alert system for cyber risk. Such a system would complement rather than replace CISA’s existing production of alerts and advisories on specific, actionable risks.

All CSAC reports and recommendations are publicly available at [CISA Cybersecurity Advisory Committee Reports and Recommendations | CISA](#).

In total, the Subcommittees met 94 times this year and provided the CISA Director with 53 recommendations. The inaugural year of the CSAC has been productive. The Committee is looking forward to continuing to support CISA’s strategic missions and goals in 2023.



CISA CYBERSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Pictured from left to right: Kevin Mandia, Bob Lord, George Stathakopoulos, Niloo Howe, Jeff Moss, Nicole Wong, Bobby Chesney, Jen Easterly, Nicole Perlroth, Chris Young, Kate Starbird, Alicia Tate-Nadeau, Matthew Prince, Steve Adler, Tom Fanning