IT Program Assessment
USSS - Information Integration and Transformation (IIT)

Review

The DHS CIO conducted a comprehensive program review of the USSS - Information Integration and Transformation (IIT) program during September 2011. Observations of this program include the following:

The USSS IIT Program is in the Obtain Phase of the ALF (Acquisition Lifecycle Framework) and executing as directed in the ADE 2 ADM (Acquisition Decision Event/Memorandum). Overall the schedule is approximately 4 – 6 weeks behind the ADE 2 plan but consistent with the approved Acquisition Program Baseline. Funding in FY 2012 and FY 2013 continue to be a concern as the requested program levels are essential to continue the program efficiently and as planned*.* Capability gaps are associated with this program but will not be highlighted in the assessment. Strategy for Data Center Migration has been developed.

Top four risks identified:

- If needed systems engineers are not available then management of systems life cycle will be jeopardized
- If FY12/13 funding is not addressed, required functionality will not be delivered
- Identification and prioritization of applications currently running on the USSS IT mainframe must be accomplished prior to re-factoring and migration to the new database architecture—use of antiquated drivers will result in lose of functionality and impact operations
- If the Database and applications are not in the same data center then the applications may not function properly

Mitigation Strategy

The Program Office will continue efforts to fill vacant System Engineering (SE) position, we will leverage the Joint Duty Assignment program (detail government subject matter experts) and supplement with contract support as necessary. SE staff is adequate for current program requirements. In the interim and in support of overall effort, contract support will continue. As for funding, in the event the requested FY2012/13 funding is not available, the program will access it's baseline capability to determine alignment with available funding. USSS IT managers are actively participating in planning for DHS Data Center management and contract actions related to DC2 and the requirements of other Presidential Community of Interest (PCI) activities. A recent contract was awarded by DHS for HP to conduct 'Discovery' activities for USSS requirements at DC2. USSS CIO has also approved support efforts to ensure appropriate management and planning continues.

Assessment

The program has challenges but is well managed and the Program Office is actively involved mitigating risk and developing sound strategy. Due to funding risk that are predicated on circumstances outside of the PMO's control, these risk require close monitoring. The Program Management Office has implemented an Executive Steering Committee (ESC), which along with the Program Manager will assist, govern and communicate problem resolutions and modifications. The CIO assesses the USSS IIT program as Level 3 – Medium Risk.

Score: 3