



*Cobb County...Expect the Best!*

***INTERNAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT***

***Report Number: 2021-001***

***FINAL REPORT – Network Security Audit***

***(Performed by RSM US, LLP<sup>1</sup>)***

***February 18, 2021***

***Latona Thomas, CPA, Director***  
***Erica Brooks Peters, CPA***  
***Tenaye Francois-Arneson, CIA, CFE***

---

<sup>1</sup> RSM US, LLP is a vendor selected through the County's selection process to perform supplemental internal auditing services.  
[Source: Cobb County Contract No. 18955, dated April 21, 2020]

## ***Cobb County – Network Audit: Executive Summary Report***

RSM US LLP

### **Objective & Scope:**

The purpose of this assessment was to understand and evaluate the network security posture for Cobb County through the lens of 26 security controls and 7 security domains.

The scope of the assessment included a review of key security processes and technologies in place to protect the County from malicious threat actors and mitigate key security risks.

### **Background:**

Through collaborative discussions with the Internal Audit and Information Services Departments, RSM presented several potential network audits for management's consideration. These audits excluded previously performed audits and assessments. Through review of the potential audits, the following higher risk domains were identified to be included in scope: Certificate Management, Email Protection, Filter Network Traffic, Multi-Factor Authentication, Network Intrusion Prevention, Exploit Protection, and Security Information and Event Management. Within these 7 security domains, we evaluated 26 security controls.

### **Assessment Outcome:**

Out of the 26 controls tested, it was noted that 12 of these controls had exceptions within 5 security domains. Therefore, the 14 remaining controls were reviewed without exceptions; however, recommendations were made in these 2 security domains to further strengthen or enhance the Cobb County's security posture.

For the 12 exceptions noted, recommendations were made and the breakdown in priority is as follows:

- **High** – 3
- **Moderate** – 7
- **Low** – 2

### **Enhancement Roadmap:**

Through RSM's review, it was noted that various initiatives already are or will be underway at Cobb County to enhance the current security posture. These initiatives will serve to further increase the County's ability to identify and respond to cybersecurity attacks, as well as mitigate key security risks.

### **Management Discussion:**

The results of this review were discussed with management before the finalization of this report to ensure the accuracy of the observations noted, as well as to obtain an understanding of management's responses. Management concurred with each of the recommendations and provided corrective actions in their responses. Quarterly updates on the corrective actions will be provided to the Support Services Agency Director and the Internal Audit Department.

### **Privacy Disclaimer:**

Due to the sensitive nature of this report, detailed information related to these findings can only be made available upon approved request.