

## RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**REPORT TITLE:** "Cyberattacks: A Growing Threat to Marin Government"  
**REPORT DATE:** May 11, 2020  
**RESPONSE BY:** County of Marin Board of Supervisors

### GRAND JURY FINDINGS

- We agree with the findings numbered: **F1 and F2.**

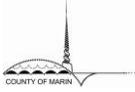
### GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendation numbered **R3** has been implemented.
- Recommendations numbered **R1-R2** have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by August 31, 2020.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Katie Rice, President  
Marin County Board of Supervisors



County of Marin Response to Grand Jury Report Findings and Recommendations  
“Cyberattacks: A Growing Threat to Marin Government”  
(May 11, 2020)

## **RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY FINDINGS**

**F1. The Marin County government has a well-developed approach to cybersecurity in general, and a robust architecture and strategy for avoiding breaches.**

**Response: Agree**

As highlighted in the grand jury report, the County of Marin has a Chief Information Security Officer who oversees the County’s Information Security Program within the Department of Information Services and Technology (IST). The program is supported by a dedicated information security team with an emphasis on employee education and awareness, in addition to managing technical security systems.

In 2019, Marin County IST’s program called “People at the Heart of Information Security” received a challenge award from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC).

**F2. The Marin County government has substantial cybersecurity expertise and, as the host and manager of the MIDAS system, is well positioned to assist the cities and towns in developing a common set of best practices regarding cybersecurity.**

**Response: Agree**

The County is well positioned given its existing relationships with MIDAS members to share best practices regarding cybersecurity that can be implemented by the cities and towns.

## **RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Marin County Civil Grand Jury recommends the following:

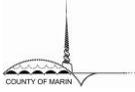
**R1. Within 120 days of the date of this report, the Marin County Information Services and Technology Department should create an ongoing program to share user education information, other cybersecurity practices, and updates with cities and towns.**

**The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.**

The County conducted an initial meeting of city and towns stakeholders May 22, 2020 to discuss the creation of an ongoing cybersecurity information sharing program. By July 31, 2020, the County will share its monthly information security newsletters to all of Marin’s cities and towns for distribution to their employees. Other cybersecurity best practices and updates will be shared on an ongoing basis.

**R2. Within 120 days of the date of this report, the Marin County Information Services and Technology Department should complete a plan for enhancing MIDAS to improve cybersecurity for its users.**

**The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.**



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The County had already begun re-architecture of the security infrastructure for MIDAS – the network shared among members, not each member’s internal network. This enhancement includes new hardware that provides a menu of security features that can be requested and implemented to meet each member’s needs. Installation of the new hardware will be completed by August 31, 2020.

**R3. Within 120 days of the date of this report, the Marin County Information Services and Technology Department should offer to collaborate with the cities and towns, through the Marin Managers Association or another channel, to develop best practices for cybersecurity in Marin’s cities and towns.**

**This recommendation has been implemented.**

The County offered to collaborate with the cities and towns at the stakeholder meeting on May 22, 2020. As a result of this meeting, the County created and is hosting a Microsoft Teams site for the Marin Information Security Collaboration (MISC). Members from the cities and towns will have access to shared resources as they become available and can communicate with each other and the County through the Microsoft Teams platform. The County will conduct MISC meetings with all members at least quarterly.