



FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of KANSAS CITY

October 6, 2016

Supervision and Regulation (SR) Letter 16-14:
FFIEC Information Technology Examination Handbook – Information Security Booklet

Attention: Chief Executive Officer of Each Tenth District State Member Bank, Holding Company, and Technology Service Provider

In Brief: The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC), on behalf of its members, has revised the “Information Security” booklet of the *FFIEC Information Technology Examination Handbook (IT Handbook)*.

Highlights: The revised booklet provides guidance to examiners for assessing the level of security risks to a financial institution’s information systems. The booklet describes effective information security program management and provides an overview of information security operations, including the need for effective threat identification, assessment, and monitoring; and effective incident identification, assessment, and response.

The booklet highlights important attributes among effective information security programs, including assurance and testing, and the adequacy of an institution's culture, governance, and security operations. Further, the booklet includes examination procedures to evaluate these areas and addresses:

- cybersecurity concepts such as threats, controls, and resource requirements for preparedness; and
- the stages of the IT risk management program, including risk identification, risk measurement, risk mitigation, monitoring, and reporting.

Electronic versions of the Information Security booklet, as well as the other booklets in the IT Handbook, are available at:

<http://ithandbook.ffiec.gov/it-booklets.aspx>

Contact: Please direct any questions concerning the new guidance to your Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City central point of contact at (800) 333-1010, or IT Manager Sara Nielsen at (800) 333-1020, ext. 572-2530, Sara.Nielsen@kc.frb.org.

Internet Link: A copy of the Federal Reserve Supervision and Regulation Letter SR 16-14 is available on the Board’s public web site at:

<http://www.federalreserve.gov/bankinforeg/srletters/sr1614.htm>