

Security Control Review of the Board's Public Website

To evaluate the security controls and techniques of the information systems of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board), the Office of Inspector General reviews controls over Board applications on an ongoing basis. Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA), we conducted a security control review of the Board's Public Website (Pubweb). Pubweb is listed as a major application on the Board's FISMA application inventory for the Office of Board Members. As part of the Board's Publications Program, Pubweb provides a large and diverse audience, including the public, with information about the mission and work of the Board and the functions of the Federal Reserve System.

Our audit objective was to evaluate the adequacy of selected security controls for protecting the Pubweb application from unauthorized access, modification, destruction, or disclosure. To accomplish this objective, we used a control assessment review program based on the security controls defined in National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-53, Revision 3, *Recommended Security Controls for Federal Information Systems*. This document provides a baseline for managerial, operational, and technical security controls for organizations to use in protecting their information systems.

Overall, our review of the Pubweb application showed that, in general, controls are adequately designed and implemented. However, we identified opportunities to strengthen information security controls to help ensure that Pubweb meets FISMA requirements. In comments on a draft of our report, the Board's Director of the Division of Information Technology and Assistant to the Board, Office of Board Members, stated that they generally agree with the recommendations discussed in the report, and in many cases, corrective action has already been completed or is well underway. We will follow up on the implementation of these recommendations as part of our future FISMA-related audit activities. Given the sensitivity of information security review work, our reports in this area are generally restricted. Such was the case for this audit report.