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Office of the Auditor General

Report Summary

Performance Audit

Michigan Sex Offender Registries

Michigan Department of State Police (MSP)

Report Number:
551-0595-24

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MSP established and maintains the Michigan Sex Offender Registry (MSOR) and the Public Sex Offender Registry. MSOR is a computerized law enforcement database of public and non-public sex offender registration records created with the intent to better assist law enforcement officers and Michigan residents in preventing and protecting against the commission of future criminal sexual acts by convicted sex offenders. The MSP Sex Offender Registry unit is responsible for the maintenance of the sex offender central repository of information in Michigan. As of July 25, 2024, Michigan had approximately 44,000 actively registered sex offenders.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 1: To assess the sufficiency of MSP's monitoring efforts of MSOR's third-party service organization (TPSO).			Not sufficient
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MSP did not adequately design 18 (86%) of 21 of its own complementary user entity controls, which are intended to help ensure the TPSO's services and system works effectively and securely. Also, MSP did not obtain its TPSO's (until we requested it) or the TPSO's subservice organizations' System and Organization Controls 2, type 2 reports (Finding 1).	X		Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 2: To assess the effectiveness of MSP's security and user access controls over MSOR.			Not effective
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MSP did not maintain access authorization forms for 80% of State of Michigan MSOR users. Also, MSOR application level access was not revoked for any of the 1,842 disabled Michigan Criminal Justice Information Network (MSP's single sign-on solution) users as recommended by industry best practices. In certain circumstances, this could allow users continued access to MSOR (Finding 2).	X		Agrees

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 3: To assess the sufficiency of MSP's efforts to maintain the reliability of information within MSOR.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
The lack of training and guidance for registering authorities contributed to inaccuracies in MSOR information for 9 (20%) of 45 sampled active registrants and improper cancellation of 7 (16%) of 43 sampled registrants (<u>Finding 3</u>).		X	Agrees
Documentation was missing or incomplete for 4 (7%) of 60 sampled out-of-state registrants to support registrants were no longer domiciled, temporarily residing, working, or attending school in Michigan (<u>Finding 4</u>).		X	Agrees
Observations Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
The utilization of the Department of State driver's license file could help improve the accuracy of sex offender address data (<u>Observation 1</u>).	Not applicable for observations.		

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective 4: To assess the sufficiency of MSP's efforts to comply with selected State laws, regulations, and policies for the registration and tracking of sex offenders.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MSP's guidance to registering authorities is lacking for identifying registrants who missed address verifications. As a result, 12 (25%) of 48 sampled registrants had not verified their information with the registering authority as required (<u>Finding 5</u>).		X	Agrees

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Office of the Auditor General
201 N. Washington Square, Sixth Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Doug A. Ringler, CPA, CIA
Auditor General

Laura J. Hirst, CPA
Deputy Auditor General