

2003 NASCIO Recognition Awards

**NOMINATION FORM**

**Title of Nomination:** Enterprise Information Security  
**Project/System Manager:** Mike Russo  
**Job Title:** Chief Information Security Officer  
**Agency:** Florida State Technology Office  
**Department:** Office of Information Security  
**Address:** 2585 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
**City:** Tallahassee  
**State:** Florida  
**Zip:** 32399-0950  
**Phone:** 850-414-0152  
**Fax:** 850-922-5162  
**Email:** [mike.russo@myflorida.com](mailto:mike.russo@myflorida.com)

**Category for judging: 8 - Security and Business Continuity**

**Person nominating  
(if different than above):** Jennifer Faul  
**Job Title:** Awards Coordinator  
**Address:** 4030 Esplanade Way  
**City:** Tallahassee  
**State:** Florida  
**Zip:** 32399  
**Phone:** 850-410-0853  
**Fax:** 850-922-5162  
**Email:** [jennifer.faul@myflorida.com](mailto:jennifer.faul@myflorida.com)

**ONE-PAGE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Florida Statutes, Chapter 282.318, authorized the State Technology Office (STO) to create an enterprise approach to information security. Previously, computer security efforts were the exclusive franchise of the respective agency heads. Now, with the recent change in the law, the STO has the lead on developing comprehensive computer security plans, in conjunction with the agencies.

The goals of the Office of Information Security are:

- Develop minimum information security standards for all State agencies
- Protect the MyFlorida.com portal from intrusions, denial-of-service attacks, and the like
- Bring all information security officers to an equivalent level of competence
- Determine the information security competence of each agency
- Provide for ongoing, exhaustive, and thorough security testing of each agency
- Prepare the State agencies in advance for HIPAA security compliance, and determine deficiencies in each HIPAA-impacted agency now, rather than later.
- Coordinate the information security audits for all governmental agencies in accordance with F.S. 282.318.
- Coordinate background checks on IT staff and contractors
- Establish IT Disaster Recovery requirements for state agencies
- Identify security tools required to help secure the IT infrastructure

Since March 2001, information security managers from all State agencies, including Cabinet and Cabinet-level, have been meeting on a regular basis and working on a number of consolidations initiatives. This marks the first time in the history of Florida state government that these security professionals have ever been under the same roof at the same time. The Office of Information Security, within the State Technology Office, has met this challenge by taking an Enterprise approach to information security, which in turn focuses on the state network. This action greatly assists decision-making, since determining the security impacts to the enterprise as a whole, should be a prerequisite to any project implementation. If an enterprise implements its strategy without taking into account security issues, applying security enhancements will grow on an average by a factor of 10. Since risks are inherent in business, security risks (being a form of risk) will have to be factored into business decisions. As business takes an enterprise approach, security must follow the same path. Otherwise security will not be taken into account due to its complexity. An enterprise approach to security is particularly suited to identifying and removing weak links across the enterprise. For instance, it is virtually impossible for any two state agencies to study their interrelationships and interdependencies without having the big picture supplied by the enterprise approach.