**CIS 481 – Intro to Information Security**

**CLASS EXERCISE # 11**

Grading ID: A7386

**Problem 1**

Though the Information Security function is often located in the IT department, many now argue that this is not the best place for it. Why? What factors need to be balanced when selecting the reporting structure of the Information Security function? (10 pts.)

Some may argue that the IT department is not ideal for the information security function because it interacts and requires an understanding of multiple facets of the business beyond IT, including physical security, risk management, and the legal department. As such, those who operate on the function must have an understanding of all of these aspects, and not just the hardware/software components that make it work. The factors that need to be balanced when selecting the reporting structure include education, training, awareness, and customer service.

**Problem 2**

Compare and contrast the functions, key qualifications, and requirements of the CISO and a security manager. (8 pts.)

A CISO reports directly to the CIO and is higher on the job hierarchy than a security manager. A CISO works directly with the CIO to manage the overall information security program, draft and improve security policies, develop strategic plans, and many other broad high-level functions that would affect an entire company. A CISO typically has a graduate degree and as well as prior InfoSec experience. Meanwhile, a security manager is lower on the job hierarchy and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the information security program, overseeing that it is being adhered to and that things are running smoothly. They may also work to resolve issues identified by technicians or draft lower-level policies. Typical experience is recognized accreditation and management skills.

**Problem 3**

Why would mandatory annual vacations for some (or all) employees be an important personnel control measure to consider? (7 pts.)

Mandatory vacations reduce the risk of being overworked or job burnout which could negatively impact morale and productivity. It could also help identify issues that occur when a specific employee is not present. If so, action must be taken to ensure that the job function of that employee can still be effectively performed in his absence.