

## CIS 481 – Intro to Information Security

### IN-CLASS EXERCISE # 11

Names of team members: Volodymyr Bestiyanets, Nick Cunningham, Timothy Mahan, and Shawn Nasr.

#### Logistics

- A. Get into your regular team
- B. Discuss and complete the assignment together. Don't just assign different problems to each teammate! That defeats the purpose of team-based learning.
- C. Choose a recorder to prepare the final copy to submit to instructor in Blackboard.

#### 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.)

Traditionally information security has fallen under the IT department of many organizations. Now this is a logical placing when a company is up and coming or considered medium sized, also when protection of a company's information handled daily is not the utmost importance. However, many of today's organizations are massive entities operating globally with sites in multiple countries. Information security should then be a department all on its own. The argument for this push is that the heads of an information security department need to be on equal footing with the heads of other departments. So that policies created and pushed have a solid backing instead of just coming from the information technology department.

#### Problem 2

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

The primary function of the CISO is to manage the overall security program of an organization, this includes writing policies, working on strategic planning with the CIO, prioritize and purchase information security projects and technology, and act as a spokesperson for the IS team. Security managers are responsible for the day to day operations and accomplish objectives the CISO sets. The CISO typically needs accreditation and at least a bachelor's degree. Security managers usually need accreditation, the ability to write a budget, low to mid level policies, project management, and the ability to hire and fire. Usually the CISO reports to the CIO, and the Security Manager reports to the CISO.

#### Problem 3

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

Annual mandatory vacations pose an issue for organizations based solely on the fact when people usually choose to take vacations. If vacations are mandatory then it's safe to say that most people will take vacations during the prime months of the year. Most employees have children who are not in school during the summer months, making this time ideal for vacations as well. These are just a few reasons why employees may choose vacation times during the same

period. If large amounts of the workforce are taking two weeks off around July 4th weekend, this may be an issue when operations need to get done. It also becomes a problem if key members in departments are on vacation at the same time and issues arise within companies.