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COMPTROLLER



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STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

February 6, 2006

Mr. John R. Ryan
Chancellor
State University of New York
University Plaza
Albany, New York 12246

Re: Report 2005-F-33

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Pursuant to the State Comptroller's authority as set forth in Article V, Section 1 of the State Constitution, and Article II, Section 8 of the State Finance Law, we have followed up on the actions taken by officials of the Stony Brook University Hospital and Health Sciences Center (Center), to implement the recommendations contained in our confidential draft audit report, *Selected General Controls over Computer Network Security, (2004-S-2)*.

Background, Scope and Objective

The Center, a component of the State University of New York, is comprised of a hospital and an academic health sciences center. The Center's 504-bed hospital, in Suffolk County, New York, provides health care services for over 30,000 inpatients and over a half million outpatients each year. The Center's schools are charged with the responsibility of educating the men and women who will comprise the health care community of tomorrow and contribute to the knowledge base of the health sciences.

Our initial audit report, which was issued on September 28, 2004, examined selected aspects of the general controls over the Center's computerized processes. The objectives of our performance audit were to determine whether the Center's management had established organizational, physical, logical, and monitoring controls to reasonably ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of computer systems and data; and whether wireless access points had been approved, configured, and encrypted properly so that they could provide reasonable assurance that data and systems are protected from unauthorized access.

The objective of our follow-up, which was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards, was to assess the extent of implementation, as of December 20, 2005, of the recommendations included in our confidential report. To further assure security of the Center's data processing operations, the details of the recommendations and their implementation status are not included in this report. However, we discussed the detailed results of our follow-up work with Center officials during the conduct of the review.

Summary Conclusions and Status of Audit Recommendations

We found that Center officials have implemented most of the recommendations contained in the confidential draft report, and are striving to ensure full implementation of all recommendations.

Major contributors to this report were Brian Reilly, Abe Fish, Keith Dickter and Michael D'Amico.

We also thank the management and staff of the Stony Brook University Hospital and Health Sciences Center for the courtesies and cooperation extended to our auditors during this process.

Very truly yours,

Steven E. Sossei
Audit Director

cc: Robert Barnes, Division the Budget
C. Kevin O'Donoghue, University Auditor