AGENCY CONTACT MEMORANDUM #2018-0202

To: Agency IT Leadership, Technical Contacts

From: Chuck Grindle   *CEG*
            Chief Information Officer

Date: February 26, 2018

Subject: Wireless Network Access Transition

On March 1st, COT will begin implementing a new wireless strategy. This strategy involves the transitioning of KY-Open, the wireless network users normally see as an available network to KY-Guest wireless network. The details are described below.

When accessing internal state resources and networks, all state government employees and contractors with state provided wireless devices are required to authenticate to KY-Secure using their Active Directory credentials. This requirement is unchanged. KY-Open was originally intended to serve non-government employees and devices; e.g., vendors and citizens who cannot access the state's internal KY-Secure wireless service. Recent audits of KY-Open, show approximately 1,100 users on the KY-Open network, many of whom are connecting with state-owned devices. Many are using a common ID and password. This common ID and password will be removed as locations transition to the new KY-Guest wireless network.

Statewide adoption of the new KY-Guest wireless network will complete by March 19th, with Frankfort offices transitioning first, and locations outside Frankfort transitioning thereafter. Once wireless sites are configured with KY-Guest, users will gain network access by submitting required information from an entry, or "splash" page before acquiring a temporary ID and password sent via text message and/or email. These temporary credentials provide 18-hour Internet access. After 18 hours, users will have to obtain new login credentials by going through the registration process again.

Wireless networking provides the Commonwealth benefits by allowing staff flexibility for meetings and additional collaboration. Wireless networking is intended to augment traditional wired computer networks. The internal (KY-Secure) wireless network is configured to provide state government staff the intranet, or internal, system access they need. The external (KY-Guest) wireless network allows vendors and non-state workers temporary access to the Internet. Security and filtering mechanisms accompany the new KY-Guest access, with configuration designed to protect internal state resources.

Please direct any questions regarding wireless Internet access to the Commonwealth Service Desk – 502-564-7576.