AGENCY CONTACT MEMORANDUM #2015-1203

To: Agency IT Leadership, Technical Contacts

From: Jim Barnhart, Deputy Commissioner

Date: December 29, 2015

Subject: End of Support for Key Enterprise IT Components

During the past several months, the Commonwealth Office of Technology (COT) has alerted Executive Branch agencies that Microsoft Corporation will be discontinuing support for some older versions of Internet Explorer (IE) browser and .NET Framework on January 12, 2016. Agency Contact Memorandum #2015-0901 and Agency Contact Memorandum #2015-0201 were issued requesting that all agencies work to resolve compatibility issues with business applications that use IE version 10 and older to avoid negative business impact. Agencies were also alerted to upgrade .NET Framework to versions 4.5.2 or newer due to security concerns. While a limited number of agencies have reported testing their application for compatibility with IE 11, it appears that some agencies are at risk by not completing testing on time.

As a result, COT will provide a plan and support strategy for applications, devices and systems that do not conform to standards in order to maintain a safe and secure computing environment with the enterprise. The plan will be discussed in detail during a meeting with COT leadership at 10am on January 6, 2016. The meeting will be held at the Commonwealth Data Center located at 101 Cold Harbor Drive Frankfort, KY.

It is imperative that an authorized IT representative from each agency that is empowered to act on the behalf of the agency attend this meeting prepared to provide a list of managed applications and the state of compatibility testing with IE 11.

Attendees should also be prepared to provide a list of any applications or devices that rely on .NET Framework versions older than 4, as well as a list of applications or devices that require an exception to upgrading to version 4.5.2 with the supporting business justification.

Agencies will have an opportunity at the meeting to identify challenges that may be address in the final deployment plans. Please contact your COT Business Relationship Manager for additional information.