



Aaron Frank, Town Manager, Town of Colchester
Testimony on February 13, 2020 on Cyber Security
Vermont House Energy and Technology Committee

Town of Colchester – Supports Cyber Security

Legislation might consider:

- Remote training
- Applicable only to municipal employees/volunteers/officials with add, delete, update or change State of Vermont data systems
- Be clear it does not apply to all municipal employees, just those who have access to covered systems
- Please exclude
 - Fillable PDF forms that are mailed or emailed to State staff
 - Access limited to search and print
 - Systems with add, delete, update or change that is also provided to the public and private business (such as tax filing)
 - Unless public/private business must also undergo training
- Regional Planning Agency staff may have access to State systems
- Requiring an annual State provided list of such systems including: name of computer system, purpose, Agency/Department/Division primarily responsible
 - *Testing to be sure the State data system can actually be edited directly by municipal employees and is not just thought to be editable*
- **Municipal employees credentialed to use law enforcement systems covered by separate and complex federal Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) requirements should be exempt from training**
- **Be careful to avoid double log-ons, first to security system and then to State data system, which can cause frustration and will encourage poor password creation and storage habits**
- Ongoing appropriation for developing training is crucial
 - IT changes rapidly
 - Outdated IT trainings encourage security circumvention
 - Updated training will have to compete with other goals

14 Town Departments

Excluding Police - 12 State data system write/edit access

- **Administration** – 1: GEARS Grants ACCD
- **Assessor** - 2: myVTax.com, used for entering property sales for equalized education grand list and Current Use data entry; NEMRC property valuation (no financial use)
- **Clerk/Treasurer** - 2: Vermont Elections Management Software (VEMS); NEMRC property valuation (no financial use Statewide checklist for managing voters and elections, Secretary of State
- **Economic Development** - 0
- **Emergency Management** - 1: DisasterLAN DPS/VEM
- **Finance** – 4: View and Accept Wage Garnishments, VT Office of Child Support, Dept. of Children; New Hire Reporting, Department of Labor; State Tax Filing/W2/1099M (quarterly tax filing & annual filings), Department of Taxation; VMERS - Quarterly filing
- **Fire** - 0
- **Human Resources** - 0
- **Library** - 0
- **Planning and Zoning** - 0
- **Parks and Recreation** -1: Bright Futures Child Care Information System (BFIS) for child care subsidies of some of our youth child care programs, Department for Children and Families, Child Development
- **Police** – Multiple but already covered by State/Federal system
- **Public Works** - 2 VT Culverts: Town bridge and culvert inventory, VAOT; digital Town Highway map updates, VAOT,
- **Rescue** – 1: SIREN from Image Trend Elite; patient care reporting, Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of EMS. We do not use another program offered called CenterLearn.
- **Technical Rescue** – 0
 - State Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team accesses Colchester system

Town of Colchester – Supports Cyber Security

- 107 year round staff
- 85 Elected and appointed officials
- 100 seasonal Recreation staff
- 90 volunteer firefighters
- 70 volunteer rescue and technical rescue staff
- Strong partnership with State government

Cyber Security in Colchester

- Staff
- Support
- Systems
- Annual reporting and review of Police and Public Safety Dispatch IT systems, security, physical and logical access via FBI Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) annually
 - State NCIC auditor inspects site at least every other year
 - Police building restricted
 - System access annual required testing