

## Cyber Executive Order Strong Step Toward Enhancing National Security

The Financial Services Sector Coordinating Council (FSSCC) looks forward to working with Executive Branch and private sector partners on protecting the nation's critical infrastructure

Washington, DC—An Executive Order (EO) focused on cybersecurity and strengthening critical infrastructure released this week by the President will bolster our nation's defenses against cyber threats. The FSSCC is encouraged today's EO puts strong emphasis on several critical priorities to further improve the cybersecurity posture of our nation.

The EO focuses on investing further in financial services-supporting infrastructure and riskbased cyber tools, pursuing a uniform and streamlined approach to cyber via the NIST framework, emphasizing the need for international cooperation, prioritizing critical infrastructure sectors and improving the cyber workforce.

The EO's focus on bolstering the federal government's cybersecurity through updated and enhanced IT and further protecting the country's cyber-infrastructure are critical to enhancing resilience to ever-advancing cyber threats. Having a robust cyber workforce is also essential to ensuring private companies and the federal government have enough skilled workers to stay ahead of threats—the Administration's focus on growth and sustainment is imperative.

For the past 15 years, FSSCC has played a lead role in collaborating with the U.S. Government in preparing the financial services sector for potential crisis by identifying threats, training sector personnel through conducting exercises, coordinating responses in times of disaster and facilitating the meeting of U.S. Government officials with key financial sector personnel. This EO builds upon such collaboration and coordination with U.S. Government agencies on cybersecurity and provides important direction to the public and private sector on the need to work collaboratively to protect against threats to our critical infrastructures.

The FSSCC and our member organizations looks forward to working with the Administration as it seeks input and feedback toward implementing the EO and related tasks.

## **About FSSCC:**

Formed in 2002 as a public/private partnership with the support of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, FSSCC collaborates with the Treasury and the financial regulatory agencies at the federal and state levels through the Financial and Banking Information Infrastructure Committee, which also formed in 2002 under Treasury's leadership. Members include 72 of the largest financial institutions and their industry associations representing banking, insurance, credit card networks, credit unions, exchanges, financial utilities in payments, clearing and settlement.

For more information about the FSSCC's cyber and industry priorities, click here.