



Office of Inspector General  
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

# Unrestricted Summary: NIST Cybersecurity Framework Audit

**OIG PROJECT NUMBER 24-NCF-01**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

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According to the authority granted to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's (WSSC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) by the Annotated Code of Maryland, Public Utilities Article (PUA), § 17-605 (a)(6), the OIG conducted an audit of WSSC's compliance with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) as a basis for industry best practices. The OIG conducted the audit in accordance with the U.S. Government Accountability Office's Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS).

Overall, WSSC has implemented some effective cybersecurity controls. However, the audit identified critical areas that require improvement to align more fully with a specific NIST Cybersecurity Framework's Function and other industry best practices.

The OIG acknowledges WSSC's Cybersecurity Services for establishing foundational safeguards. Nonetheless, the gaps identified in key control areas pose risks to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of WSSC's systems and sensitive data. Specifically, the OIG noted 16 audit findings with 16 corresponding recommendations and issued a detailed report to WSSC management. Management concurred with the findings and recommendations and indicated that corrective actions will be taken to mitigate the identified findings.

Our report contains information that the OIG has determined to be sensitive and that, if disclosed, may adversely affect information security and the integrity of Commission operations. Accordingly, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., PUA, § 17-605 (d)(2), which prohibits the disclosure of records, reports, or related information protected under the Maryland Public Information Act and requires the safeguarding of confidential and privileged information, this report is restricted from public release.

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