

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

DATE: February 11, 2025

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
Erik Harvey, Director, Information Technology

FROM: Racheal Miller, Cyber Security Technician

SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement for Membership

BACKGROUND:

The Information Technology Department has identified a third-party organization dedicated to improving public and private sector defenses against cybersecurity threats. They were created to administer, collect, and share cyber threat intelligence information with a focus on public safety systems and mission-critical networks worldwide. Their goal is to provide members with cyber intelligence relevant to public safety, provide shared best practices, raise cybersecurity awareness, and increase cyber maturity of the entire public safety landscape. Through this partnership, member organizations may share anonymized threat intelligence data at its discretion to collectively identify and mitigate cyber risks. They adhere to strict data-sharing protocols to ensure that shared information remains confidential and is not disseminated to outside companies or third-party organizations.

Membership with them will provide Information Technology personnel with access to:

1. **Real-Time Cybersecurity Intelligence** – Timely updates on emerging threats and vulnerabilities affecting public safety.
2. **Collaborative Defense Strategies** – Insight into proven methods for mitigating identified risks.
3. **Enhanced Threat Awareness** – Advanced warning of potential cyber-attacks targeting similar organizations.

DISCUSSION:

Information relating to an agency's cybersecurity is exempt from public disclosure, under the State Cybersecurity Act, as described in section 282.318, Florida Statute.

Participation in their membership presents a strategic opportunity to address the evolving landscape of cybersecurity threats. By entering into this membership, the County will be better equipped to mitigate potential risks through proactive identification of emerging threats and vulnerabilities.

Execution of an agreement, available for the review by Commissioners, in the IT Department, is necessary for the County to join.

FUNDING:

There is no funding requirement associated with this request.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board authorize the Chairman to execute the necessary agreements, after review and approval by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.