



Department of Transformation and Shared Services
Governor Asa Hutchinson
Secretary Mitch Rouse
Director Jonathan Askins

Memorandum

To: All State Employees
From: Jonathan Askins, DIS Director
Date: December 8, 2022
Subject: **TikTok Usage on State Devices**

On December 2, 2022, FBI Director Christopher Wray warned citizens about usage of TikTok. TikTok's privacy and data collection policies allow for the capture of sensitive, personally identifiable information (PII) and that data is stored in locations that could be accessed by the Government of the People's Republic of China for use other than permissions given by the user. In testimony before the Homeland Security Committee last month, the FBI called TikTok a risk to national security.

After consultation with the Arkansas Cyber Security Office, the Division of Information Systems, and the Cyber Infrastructure Security Agency, Governor Hutchinson has directed the Division of Information Systems to issue the following:

The application, TikTok, is not to be used on State-owned and issued devices and it shall not be used on any devices connected to the State network unless it is for an authorized law enforcement or security purpose.

We value the privacy of our employees and citizens and have determined we should follow the advice given by the Department of Homeland Security.

As a reminder, when using any device, please practice these important cyber security steps:

- Use complex passwords at least 8 characters in length (numbers, symbols, capital letters).
- If available, enable multi factor authentication for access to accounts.
- Exercise security awareness by recognizing phishing emails and reporting any suspicious emails prior to opening or executing on any links.
- Never leave your workstation unlocked while unattended; this practice eliminates the potential for business email compromises.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.