



BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF THE
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20551

DIVISION OF SUPERVISION
AND REGULATION

SR 19-13

November 15, 2019

Revised December 12, 2019

Note: On December 12, 2019, the HTML version of this letter was revised to reflect a corrected applicability amount. The correct applicability amount is \$10 billion and not \$1 billion.

TO: THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SUPERVISION AT EACH FEDERAL RESERVE BANK AND TO INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISED BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE

SUBJECT: *FFIEC Information Technology Examination Handbook*

Applicability: This letter applies to all institutions supervised by the Federal Reserve, including those with \$10 billion or less in consolidated assets.

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) has revised the February 2015 version of the “Business Continuity Management” (BCM) booklet of the *FFIEC Information Technology Examination Handbook (IT Handbook)*. The BCM booklet is one of 11 booklets that make up the *IT Handbook*.

This booklet discusses BCM governance and its related components, including resilience; strategies, and plan development; training and awareness; exercises and tests; maintenance and improvement; and reporting for the board of directors. Additionally, this booklet outlines the principles of BCM to help examiners determine whether management adequately manages risk related to the availability of critical financial products and services. The booklet includes examination procedures, addressing:

- BCM concepts as part of information security.
- Various management-related concepts from other booklets of the *IT Handbook*.
- Elements related to BCM such as the identification of critical business functions, interdependency issues, and training programs.

The BCM booklet and the other booklets in the *IT Handbook* are available on the FFIEC website at: <http://ithandbook.ffiec.gov/it-booklets.aspx>.

Reserve Banks are asked to distribute this SR letter to the Federal Reserve-supervised institutions in their districts, as well as to their supervisory and examination staff. Questions regarding the revised guidance should be addressed to the staff in the Board's Systems and Operational Resiliency Policy section. In addition, questions may be sent via the Board's public website.¹

Michael S. Gibson
Director

Supersedes:

- SR letter 16-14, "FFIEC Information Technology Examination Handbook – Information Security Booklet"

¹ <http://www.federalreserve.gov/apps/contactus/feedback.aspx>