

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

Date: JUL 10 2015
From: Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Security (005R)
Subj: Prohibited Use of File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and Telnet Services (VAIQ 7615193)
To: See Addressees Below

1. By the authority granted my position under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (44 U.S.C. 3554), I am directing that the actions stated in this memorandum be fully and completely implemented to comply with VA security requirements that protect VA information and information systems.
2. VA Handbook 6500 requires that Information System Owners, system managers, and other OI&T personnel review their systems on an ongoing basis to identify File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP), and Internet Information Services and when possible, eliminate their unnecessary use. File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and Telnet are not secure and do not provide the required level of protection for VA information. All usage of FTP and Telnet services, both internally and externally, are to migrate to a more secure technology.
3. Within 30 days from the date of this memo, all FTP and Telnet services are restricted to the origination IP address and destination IP address in the firewall rules and by using access control lists (ACLs). The Information System Owner will disable functions, ports, protocols, and services within the information system deemed to be unnecessary and/or non-secure.
4. Effective January 1, 2016, use of File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and Telnet is no longer allowed within VA. All information system baselines will disable FTP and Telnet services. Any information system that requires a waiver must obtain approval through the risk based decision memorandum process that shall outline risk mitigation steps, a timeline for implementation and remediation, and complies with paragraph 3 above.
5. If there are any questions, please contact Gary Stevens at Gary.Stevens2@va.gov or (202) 632-7538.



Stanley F. Lowe

Prohibited Use of File Transfer Protocol (FTP) and Telnet Services

Addressees:

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Information Technology Resource Management (005F)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Architecture, Strategy and Design (005E)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Product Development (005Q)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Service Delivery and Engineering (005OP)
Executive Director, Quality, Performance and Oversight (005X)
Deputy Director, Interagency Program Office (005J)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Customer Advocacy (005C)