



ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

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**NYS CIO ANGELO “TONY” RIDDICK
Executive Budget Testimony – 2/10**

*Thank you Chairs Krueger and Weinstein, and distinguished members of the Senate and Assembly for your leadership, experience and service to New York.

*My name is Angelo Riddick, and I’m grateful to be joining you to discuss the work and mission of the state’s Office of Information Technology Services (ITS).

*Before starting as the state’s CIO in December, I was blessed to have a 30 year military career, much of it specializing in information technology. Most recently, I served as the CIO for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

*Let me start by saying “Thank You” to Governor Cuomo for the opportunity.

*Over much of the last year, the agency I now lead has been at the forefront of the state’s COVID response.

*We helped tens of thousands of state employees in their transition from office to remote work with laptops, phones, video conferencing tools, and secure access to the state’s network.

*This work allowed our client agencies to continue meeting the needs of New Yorkers during a global pandemic.

*We rapidly built and deployed new applications like the “Facility Entry Screening App,” which has allowed state employees to begin safely returning to their offices. 80 state entities now use this tool to protect their most precious resource – our people.

*We created the state's COVID-19 dashboard and Nourish New York app, expanded remote hearings and virtual waiting rooms, and improved the digital experience for millions of New Yorkers in search of state services.

*At the Governor's direction, we managed the state's successful Tech SWAT program - - a partnership with leading technology companies that allowed us to surge resources and meet unprecedented demand.

*Tech volunteers donated 25,000 pro bono hours and saved taxpayers \$14 million.

*The work now being done by ITS is consistent with the Governor's Build Back Better directive.

*When it comes to technology, our challenge is always to Build Back Smarter, More Agile, More Modern, and More Secure for the Future.

*Despite new and unexpected challenges caused by the COVID pandemic, our \$861 million Executive Budget allocation is virtually unchanged from last year.

*However, like most agencies we are doing more with less.

*ITS has accelerated modernization efforts, enhanced the digital offerings of many state agencies, and we continue to decommission legacy systems.

*We are now fully engaged with the vaccine distribution sites around the state - - providing 24-7 technical support - - and assisting with other COVID-19 related IT challenges.

*Meanwhile, our security team is working around the clock to protect the state's infrastructure from a growing number of cyber threats.

*In cooperation with partner agencies like DHSES, our security experts are often engaged to support state and local government entities, hospitals and schools as they work to navigate threats to their own environments.

*The much-publicized SolarWinds hack has impacted many federal agencies, and while our forensic review has indicated no unusual activity within our systems to date, New York - as always - remains on high alert.

*Due to the challenges and complexities brought on by COVID, we live in a very different world than the one we resided in just a year ago.

*Under the Governor's leadership, I am proud to say we have adapted to these challenges and continue to position New York as a leader and innovator.

*The Executive Budget will enable us to deliver timely and cost effective solutions for more than 40 Executive agencies and the New Yorkers they serve.

*Technology has been an ally during the pandemic.

*It's allowed teachers to continue to educate our children...

Helped many businesses evolve and remain open...

Allowed New Yorkers to seek real-time medical advice from highly-skilled doctors and nurses...

Ensured the integrity of state and federal elections, and

Kept us connected to our families when we needed them the most.

*Investing in our technology infrastructure is more important today than it has ever been.

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*I am truly honored to serve the state of New York.

*As CIO, my goal is to seamlessly integrate the people, processes, products and policy to serve our citizens in a better, smarter and more cost effective way.

*I thank you for your time and am happy to answer any questions you may have.