

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Information Technology Advanced Planning Brief to Industry
June 17, 2026**

MORNING SESSION

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. | Registration

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. | Welcome & Department of Veterans Affairs Technology Acquisition Center Update

Presenter: Mr. Jeffrey M. Bishop, Acting Associate Executive Director and Head of the Contracting Activity, Technology Acquisition Center, Department of Veterans Affairs

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. | Department of Veterans Affairs Acquisition: Policy, Innovation Mechanisms & What We Need from Industry

Presenter: Mr. Phillip W. Christy, Principal Executive Director, Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction, and Chief Acquisition Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. | Small Business Strategic Engagement

Presenter: Ms. Chanel Bankston-Carter, Executive Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Department of Veterans Affairs

9:15 – 9:30 a.m. | Future Direction of the Office of Information and Technology

Presenter: Mr. Zachary Schwartz, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs

9:30 – 9:55 a.m. | Question & Answer Panel with Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, VA Chief Acquisition Officer, and TAC Acting Associate Executive Director

Moderated By: Mr. Rob Howell, Acting Chief of Staff, Office of Information and Technology

9:55 – 10:15 a.m. | Break

10:15 – 11:00 a.m. | Office of Information and Technology Mission Challenge Panel: Modernization & Innovation

Moderated By: Mr. Howard Steinman, Senior Advisor, Office of Information and Technology

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Office of Information and Technology “Mission Challenge” Networking**

Mission Challenge	OIT Office	Networking Room
Enterprise Data Storage Environment	Compliance, Risk, and Remediation (CRR)	Dewberry Hall
Technology Fielding and Logistics Pipeline	Connectivity and Collaboration Services (CCS)	Cinema
Operational AI for IT Efficiency (AIOps)	End User Services (EUS)	Bistro
Intelligent Non-Human Agent (Tier 1 Contacts)	End User Services (EUS)	Bistro
Comply to Connect	Office of Information Security (OIS)	Cinema
AI Expansion Across VA	Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)	Dewberry Hall
Optimizing Workload Placement in a Hybrid Hosting Environment	Infrastructure Operations (IO)	Dewberry Hall
Modernization with Purpose: Delivering Outcomes that Advance the Mission	Product Delivery Service (PDS)	Dewberry Hall

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****Note: Virtual Attendee Networking:** *Because Mission Challenge Networking is being offered as a scheduled session during the APBI from 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Eastern, which presents unique challenges for virtual vendor attendee participation, the government will provide a future networking opportunity with OIT senior leadership on the 8 Mission Challenges discussed at a later date. More information will be forthcoming to the virtual vendor IT APBI attendees on how they may register for this future opportunity following the event.*

LUNCH

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch Break

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. | U.S. General Services Administration Partnership: Contract Vehicles, Category Management & Alignment with the Department of Veterans Affairs

Presenter: Mr. Lawrence C. Hale, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Acquisition Solutions Development, Federal Acquisition Service, U.S. General Services Administration

1:30 – 4:00 p.m. | Upcoming Requirements

Presenters:

- Office of Information and Technology Requirements Owners,
- Ms. Tameka Thomas, Director, Enterprise Acquisition Systems, Office of Acquisition and Logistics, OALC

4:00 – 4:05 p.m. | FY26 IT APBI Session Close

Presenter: Mr. Jeffrey M. Bishop, Acting Associate Executive Director, Technology Acquisition Center, Department of Veterans Affairs