

# Memorandum

To: Eric Peterson, Town Manager  
From: Chris Johnston, IT Manager  
Date: May 4th, 2026  
Subject: SecureNC Tanium Deployment



## Context

The North Carolina Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) is pushing to expand cooperation and integration with local government IT deployments through a program called SecureNC, which is an offering that provides, at no cost to the local government, a tool called Tanium, which provides for better visibility into the security of local government technology assets.

From the NCDIT Website:

[SecureNC](#) is a cybersecurity initiative led by the State Chief Information Security Officer to help North Carolina state and local governments strengthen their security posture to protect North Carolina systems and data. The program provides tools, resources and expert guidance to improve visibility, control and resilience across your environment.

And

[Tanium](#) is a converged endpoint management and security platform designed to give agencies real-time visibility, control and remediation across all endpoints (servers, laptops, cloud instances, etc.). It unifies IT operations and cybersecurity into a single platform, enabling:

- Endpoint management: Provision, patch, update, and manage endpoints at scale
- Security operations: Detect, investigate, and remediate threats in real time
- Vulnerability management: Continuous monitoring and automated patching
- Asset discovery: Maintain accurate hardware/software inventory
- Compliance and risk management: Enforce policies and monitor sensitive data

The IT manager and the contracted VCISO sat in on both a presentation and a separate question and answer meeting where we discussed what the deployment of this tool would mean for the Town. An MOU was provided by NCDIT and Tanium that goes over the expectations. See attached. The Town Attorney recommended that the Board be made aware before the Town Manager signed the MOU.

## Where We Are Now

Currently we rely on our Managed Service Provider (MSP) to provide insight into our IT Assets based on a tool they provide, manage, and control. This information is limited to the data available through their tools, which they manage and control. Patch management is performed on their standard schedule, and vulnerability reporting is provided only upon request.

Additionally, our relationship with NCDIT is minimal beyond required NCID account management, leaving us with few shared resources or direct contacts at the state level.

### **Our Options**

The Tanium SecureNC solution is being provided for free to local governments. Their goal in doing so is two-fold:

1. Strengthening the security posture of local governments and agencies.
2. Increase visibility by NCDIT into local government vulnerabilities for reporting purposes.

Tanium is providing a project manager and support team free of charge to assist in the deployment, which will be over the course of a month. They will work with our MSP to make sure that the tool does not conflict with existing tools, and that it is configured correctly.

We also see this as an opportunity to further integrate and associate with NCDIT, which is looking to expand its partnerships with non-state agencies to increase visibility and cooperation between state and local government organizations.

### **Risks/Costs**

The program is free to the Town of Hillsborough. The only costs incurred would be the time needed to interact with the Tanium project manager and our own MSP to set up, configure, and deploy the tool.

This tool is owned and operated by NCDIT, and the data stored will be in their environment. To be clear, NCDIT will have a sanitized visibility into our environment that they are using for reporting purposes. They will NOT have the ability to make changes, push updates, or otherwise externally affect our environment.

This tool is funded through state funds and could be pulled if it is not showing the success that state legislators or NCDIT are looking for. If that were the case we would revert to the tools currently in place.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommend moving forward with the SecureNC deployment. The program is free to us, support is provided through the state, and we can pull out at any time. Having access to this tool would:

- Improve our visibility into Town owned IT assets
- Allow faster identification and remediation of vulnerabilities
- Provides an avenue for us to strengthen our relationship with our state level peers.

Cc: Jen Della Valle, Administrative Services Director  
Matt Efird, Assistant Town Manager