

## STATE OF WISCONSIN Department of Employee Trust Funds

A. John Voelker SECRETARY Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds PO Box 7931 Madison WI 53707-7931 1-877-533-5020 (toll free) Fax 608-267-4549 etf.wi.gov

## Correspondence Memorandum

**Date:** August 24, 2023

To: Audit Committee

From: Shellee Bauknecht, Auditor

Office of Internal Audit (OIA)

**Subject:** Third-Party Administrator (TPA) System and Organization Controls (SOC)

1 Report Annual Review for Calendar Year (CY) 2022

This memo is for informational purposes only. No Committee action is required.

This memo provides an overview of the TPA SOC report review for CY 2022. The SOC report review is a component of the Department of Employee Trust Fund's (ETF) TPA oversight procedures. In carrying out its responsibilities under the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing<sup>1</sup>, OIA has an ongoing consulting engagement for TPA oversight as part of the FY 2022 – FY 2023 Internal Audit Plan.

As part of the TPA SOC report review, ETF program managers assess user controls, the use of subservice organizations, and exceptions to control testing. ETF program managers may follow up with TPAs as needed to understand information provided in the SOC reports and its impacts on ETF programs. Additionally, ETF program managers obtain bridge letters for any reports that do not cover the entire calendar year.

OIA facilitates the annual SOC 1 Type 2 report review by engaging and training ETF program managers in understanding SOC reports and assisting in areas that may

Standard 2110 – Governance: The internal audit activity must assess and make appropriate recommendations to improve the organization's governance processes for coordinating the activities of, and communicating information among, the board, external and internal auditors, other assurance providers, and management.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Standard 2050 – Coordination and Reliance: The chief audit executive should share information, coordinate activities, and consider relying upon the work of other internal and external assurance and consulting service providers to ensure proper coverage and minimize duplication of efforts.

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require additional understanding, including the user controls, subservice organizations, and exceptions to control testing. OIA may also make changes to the SOC 1 Type 2 review process from the prior year to continue improving the review. ETF's Bureau of Information Security Management staff are responsible for facilitating the review of SOC 2 Type 2 reports or other mutually agreed-upon security documentation due to their responsibility of ensuring information security at ETF.

## CY 2022 SOC 1 Type 2 Report Review

The review of SOC 1 Type 2 reports for TPAs covering CY 2022 began in February 2023 and was completed in June 2023. The review included the following TPAs<sup>2</sup>:

- Optum Financial (Employee Reimbursement Accounts, Health Savings Accounts, and Commuter Benefits Accounts)
- Navitus (Pharmacy Benefit)
- Securian/Minnesota Life (Life Insurance)
- Delta Dental (Uniform Dental Benefit)
- The Hartford (Income Continuation Insurance)
- Empower Retirement (Wisconsin Deferred Compensation)

During the CY 2022 review, unqualified or clean opinions were found for each SOC 1 Type 2 report. While several control testing exceptions were noted, the exceptions did not have a significant impact on ETF programs. Improvements made to ETF's review process included expanding the communication of certain user controls to payroll centers.

Staff will be at the Committee meeting to answer any questions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Similar to the prior year, a SOC 1 Type 2 report for the Wellness and Disease Management TPA, WebMD, was not available. Additionally, we note that the Wellness and Disease Management program is not financially significant for ETF.