

# Agency Snapshot: Agency for State Technology

by **Rachelle Munson**

**Background:**

The Agency for State Technology (AST), established in 2014, is Florida's newest state agency. AST was established to develop and publish information technology policy for the management of the state's information technology resources, oversee the state's essential technology projects, manage the State Data Center (SDC), and to house Florida's Chief Information Officer. Through collaborative partnerships

with both public and private sector, AST is able to maximize IT resources and save taxpayer dollars by delivering more efficient and effective enterprise customer services to the Sunshine State. AST holds as its mission to achieve success through technology and its vision is to be the national leader in government technology. Since rulemaking is not a matter of agency discretion, the agency initiates rulemaking as prescribed by applicable law. Based on the agency's 2017-2018 regulatory plan, AST expects to implement rulemaking in substantive areas.

In addition to various full-time positions, including a general counsel and senior attorney who oversee the legal issues for the agency, a Technology Advisory Council was also established within the agency to consider and make recommendations to the Executive Director on such matters as enterprise information technology policies, standards, services, and architecture.

**Executive Director / Chief Information Officer:**

Eric Larson was appointed as the Executive Director/Chief Information Officer for AST on March 7, 2017. As the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Mr. Larson sets information technology policy and direction for the State of Florida. The CIO is an advisor to the Governor on technology issues. Before joining the agency, Mr. Larson was the Chief of Distributed Infrastructure at the Department of Financial Services and led numerous internal initiatives, in addition to architecting and implementing a permanent multi-site Disaster Recovery for mainframe applications. Together with the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, Mr. Larson focuses on bringing a "big picture" view of agency investments and strategies,

assuring that agency investments fit into an enterprise view of IT.

**Chief Information Security Officer:**

Thomas Vaughn

**Chief Data Officer:**

Burt Walsh

**Geographic Information Officer:**

Ekaterina Fitos

**Inspector General:**

Tabitha McNulty

**Legislative Affairs and Communications:**

Erin Choy

**General Counsel:**

Anthony Miller

**Governing Statutes and Rule:**

Chapter 282, Florida Statutes  
Section 20.61, Florida Statutes  
Rule Division 74, Florida Administrative Code

**Headquarters Address and Contact Information:**


Agency for State Technology  
4050 Esplanade Way  
Suite 115  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
Phone: 850-412-6050  
info@ast.myflorida.com

**State Data Center Location:**

2585 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Main Number: 850-413-9306

**Public Records Custodian:**

Erin Choy  
4050 Esplanade Way  
Suite 115  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
Email: [Erin.Choy@ast.myflorida.com](mailto:Erin.Choy@ast.myflorida.com)  
Phone: (850) 412-6050



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