

# VA ENTERPRISE DESIGN PATTERNS

## MOBILITY

### STAFF-FACING MOBILE DEVICES AND APPLICATIONS SECURITY



Office of Technology Strategies (TS)  
Office of Information and Technology (OI&T)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Scope

The Staff-Facing Mobile Devices and Applications Security Enterprise Design Pattern (EDP) focuses on best practices for enterprise security on Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) issued devices and staff-facing applications. This document will cover mobile security best practices in alignment with the Government Mobile and Wireless Security Baseline; new authentication factors to achieve two-factor authentication; and mobile device data backup. This EDP is meant for use by all project teams that are developing new applications that are deployed into production within VA's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure.

### Business Need

With continued growth in demand for mobile devices among VA staff, VA needs to evaluate and modernize its mobile ecosystem. The current state of staff-facing mobile devices and applications use reveals opportunities to enhance security and efficiency. Enterprise Mobility Management (EMM) is a holistic approach to securing and managing mobile devices; EMM typically includes some combination of Mobile Device Management (MDM), Mobile Application Management (MAM), and data management capabilities. At VA, there are multiple MDM solutions to managing GFE mobile devices that increase the number of complexity and configuration management issues and subsequent security vulnerabilities.

## Approach

The following steps define a near-term approach to enhancing the security and mobile infrastructure utilized to support VA staff-facing mobile devices and applications: review the existing EMM tools; identify additional EMM capabilities required; review the One-VA Technical Reference Model (TRM) to search for a single EMM suite that provides the required capabilities; and if required, research EMM solutions not identified in the One-VA TRM; Consolidate as many EMM tools into a single EMM suite while utilizing open standards to prevent vendor lock-in; develop a mobile device data backup plan; and implement and incorporate new authentication capabilities in phases.

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[Enterprise Design Patterns](#) (EDPs) are developed by TS in coordination with internal and external subject matter experts and stakeholders. An EDP is a reusable capability guidance document that identifies best practice approaches and resources for achieving VA IT strategic objectives. The EDP Team uses industry trends and innovations; enterprise architectural standards; and guiding principles for capabilities and constraints to improve efficiency and effectiveness and define solutions to reoccurring technical problems. The EDP helps guide the design of IT systems and services by VA project teams.