United States
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917

July 14, 2009
DO-09-022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Designated Agency Ethics Officials

FROM: Robert I. Cusick
Director

SUBJECT: Survey of Designated Agency Ethics Officials Relating to the Ethics Pledge

The United States Office of Government Ethics (OGE) will be conducting an electronic survey to assess agency compliance with administration of the Ethics Pledge (Pledge) required by President Obama's Executive Order 13490 (January 21, 2009). OGE plans to follow-up on a semi-annual basis.

The Order requires every covered appointee to sign the Pledge upon assuming office. *See* Exec. Order 13490, sec. 1. In addition, every appointee who was a registered lobbyist during the two years prior to appointment must have a written ethics agreement addressing the restrictions on incoming lobbyists under paragraph 3 of the Pledge. *See* Exec. Order 13490, sec. 4(a).

The survey will focus on compliance with:

- the requirement for non-career appointees to sign the Pledge,
- the requirement to have a written ethics agreement covering any commitments under paragraph 3 of the Pledge (concerning lobbyists entering government), and
- the issuance of any waivers of Pledge requirements under section 3 of Executive Order 13490.

The information obtained through the survey will be incorporated into a report prepared by OGE on administration of the Pledge. *Id*., sec. 4(c)(5).

The survey will be distributed to Designated Agency Ethics Officials (DAEO) on or before July 31, 2009. The DAEO will be responsible for ensuring a coordinated response to the survey on behalf of the agency.

Because the Pledge is an important component of the ethics program, it is essential that each agency provides a prompt and accurate response to the survey. If you are a DAEO and do not receive the survey via e-mail on or before July 31, 2009, please contact Karen Rigby at 202-482-9212 or by e-mail at ethics_official_survey@oge.gov.