



September 25, 2013

AFRH Chief Operating Officer Fact Sheet 29

Subject: Lapse in Appropriations Guidance

As many of you are aware, annual funding for the Government expires on September 30th. The Administration strongly believes that a lapse in funding should not occur. There is enough time for Congress to prevent a lapse in appropriations, and the Administration is willing to work with Congress to enact a short-term continuing resolution to fund critical Government operations and allow Congress the time to complete the full year 2014 appropriations.

However, prudent management requires that we be prepared for all contingencies, including the possibility that a lapse could occur at the end of the month. A lapse would mean that a number of Government activities would cease due to a lack of appropriated funding. It would also mean that a number of employees would be temporarily furloughed. To prepare for this possibility, we are working with our Office of General Counsel and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to update our contingency plans for executing an orderly shutdown of activities that would be affected by a lapse in appropriations.

The uncertainty of the current circumstances puts our workforce in a difficult situation, and should a lapse occur, it could impose hardships on many employees as well as the people that we serve every day. As we approach the end of the month, I am committed to providing you with updated and timely information on any further developments. For now, should you have questions, I encourage you to talk to your managers. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) [website](#) also addresses some of the questions that may be on your mind.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and patience through this process, and for your continued service to the Agency, the Nation, and the American people.

Sincerely,

Steven G. McManus
Chief Operating Officer

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