Agency: Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) Inspection

Report No.: 20-26I Date: May 27, 2020

Period Covered by Review: January 1-December 31, 2019



1.0	AGENCY DATA	
	EMPLOYEES	
1.1	Number of full-time agency employees.	2,030
1.2	Number of Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) public financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	0
1.3	Number of non-PAS public financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	25
1.4	Number of confidential financial disclosure reports required to be filed.	858
	ETHICS PROGRAM	
1.5	Title of Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO).	General Counsel
1.6	Grade level of DAEO.	SES
1.7	Title of Alternate DAEO (ADAEO).	Associate General Counsel
1.8	Grade level of ADAEO.	GS-15
1.9	Title of the primary, day-to-day ethics program administrator.	Associate General Counsel
1.10	Grade level of the primary, day-to-day ethics program administrator.	15
1.11	Current number of full-time ethics officials.	1
1.12	Current number of part-time ethics officials.	6
1.13	Number of reporting levels between the DAEO and the agency head.	1
	COMMENTS	
	None	

2.0	LEADERSHIP			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
2.1	OGE has received an up-to-date designation from the agency head naming the DAEO. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.107(a).	\boxtimes		
2.2	OGE has received an up-to-date designation from the agency head naming the ADAEO. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.107(a).	\boxtimes		
	COMMENTS			
	None			

3.0	PUBLIC FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE (OGE Form 278e, OGE Form 278-T)			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	The agency has written policies and procedures in place governing: See 5 U.S.C. app. IV, § 402(d)(1).			
3.1	Collection of public financial disclosure reports.	\boxtimes		
3.2	Review/evaluation of public financial disclosure reports.	\boxtimes		
3.3	Public availability of public financial disclosure reports.	\boxtimes		

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3.4	The agency can demonstrate that late filing fees are collected or, where appropriate, waivers are issued when public filers do not timely file financial disclosure reports.			\boxtimes	
3.5	Public financial disclosure reports are securely maintained. See OGE/GOVT-1.	\boxtimes			
3.6	Public financial disclosure reports are retained in accordance with the retention requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.603(g)(1).				
3.7	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after appointment) notifies the DAEO of all appointments to positions that require incumbents to file public financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(1).	\boxtimes			
3.8	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after termination) notified the DAEO of terminations of employees in positions that require incumbents to file public financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(2).	\boxtimes			
	DATA ANALYSIS		%		
3.9	Percentage of sampled non-PAS new entrant reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(b).		100%		
3.10	Percentage of sampled non-PAS annual reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(a).		100%		
3.11	Percentage of sampled non-PAS termination reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(e).		100%		
3.12	Percentage of sampled non-PAS public financial disclosure reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).		87.5%		
3.13	Percentage of sampled non-PAS public financial disclosure reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).		83%		
3.14	Percentage of sampled PAS annual reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(a).		N/A		
3.15	Percentage of sampled PAS termination reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(e).		N/A		
3.16	Percentage of sampled PAS annual and termination reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).		N/A		
3.17	Percentage of sampled PAS annual and termination reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).		N/A		
	COMMENTS				
	3.4: All reports were filed timely. Therefore, it was not necessary to collect or waive late filing fees. 3.14-3.17: DTRA has no PAS officials.				

4.0	CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	The agency has written policies and procedures in place governing: See 5 U.S.C app. IV, § 402(d)(1).			
4.1	Collection of confidential financial disclosure reports.	\boxtimes		
4.2	Review/evaluation of confidential financial disclosure reports.	\boxtimes		
4.3	Confidential financial disclosure reports are securely maintained. See OGE/GOVT-2.	\boxtimes		
4.4	Confidential financial disclosure reports are retained in accordance with the retention requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.604.	\boxtimes		
4.5	The agency's OGE-approved alternative confidential financial disclosure system complies with plans approved by OGE. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2634.905(a).			\boxtimes

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problem in fiscal year 2020.



4.6	There is reasonable assurance that the lead human resources official or designee promptly (no later than 15 days after appointment) notifies the DAEO of all appointments to positions that require incumbents to file confidential financial disclosure reports. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(1).	\boxtimes		
	DATA ANALYSIS		%	
4.7	Percentage of sampled confidential new entrant reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(b).		57%	
4.8	Percentage of sampled confidential annual reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(a).		100%	
4.9	Percentage of sampled reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	98%		
4.10	Percentage of sampled confidential financial disclosure reports certified within 60 days of receipt. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2634.605(a) and 2634.909(a).	75.4%		
	COMMENTS			
	4.5: DTRA does not have an OGE-approved alternative confidential financial disclosure system. 4.7: DTRA uses the Army's Financial Disclosure Management (FDM) electronic filing system to file provided OGE with an FDM summary of the filing timeliness of their confidential reports showing the reports were filed timely. However, OGE examined a sample of 23 new entrant confidential reports are reports were filed timely. Ethics officials explained that several of the new entrant reports were late when DTRA began its recent reorganization. Supervisors were tasked to determine who should be a which resulted in some leaders recognizing some current employees should have previously been filed.	hat 138 out and found the due to a tas filer based	of 167 (83%) ne hat only 13 (57% sker ethics official on the definition	ew entrant b) new entrant dls sent out n provided,

actual date filers assumed their duties as the appointment date, rather than the date the supervisor realized they needed to file. Ethics officials believe all filers in the organization were correctly identified based on the use of the tasker during DTRA's reorganization and the agency's efforts to align all filers in the annual filing season. Thus, ethics officials do not anticipate the new entrant filer identification to be a significant

5.0	Notices to Prospective Employees			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	Written offers of employment for positions covered by the Standards of Conduct provide: <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303.			
5.1	A statement regarding the agency's commitment to government ethics.	\boxtimes		
5.2	 Notice that the individual will be subject to the Standards of Conduct and the criminal conflict of interest statutes as an employee. 	\boxtimes		
5.3	 Contact information for an appropriate agency ethics office or an explanation of how to obtain additional information on applicable ethics requirements. 	\boxtimes		
5.4	Where applicable, notice of the time frame for completing initial ethics training.			
5.5	 Where applicable, a statement regarding financial disclosure requirements and an explanation that new entrant reports must be filed within 30 days of appointment. 		\boxtimes	
5.6	The agency has established written procedures for issuing the notice to prospective employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303(c).	\boxtimes		
5.7	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303(c).	\boxtimes		
5.8	The agency can demonstrate that there is an effective process for ensuring all covered employees receive the required information with their written offer of employment. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303.	\boxtimes		
	COMMENTS			
	5.5: DTRA provided samples of notices to prospective employees who would be required to file fine the notices to prospective confidential filers met all applicable content requirements. However, the n		•	

have the required language. DTRA ethics officials indicated that the job announcement did contain language pertaining to ethics-related filing requirements. Subsequently, ethics officials amended their written procedures to include the required language in the offer letters to public

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filers. Additionally, ethics officials alerted the point of contact (POC) responsible for issuing the notices to DTRA's senior leaders of this deficiency. Consequently, the POC will ensure all letters in the future contain the necessary language for notices to prospective public filers.

6.0	Notices to New Supervisors			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	The agency must provide each employee upon initial appointment to a supervisory position with: Se	e 5 C.F.R.	§ 2638.306.	
6.1	 Contact information for the agency's ethics office. 	\boxtimes		
6.2	• The text of 5 C.F.R. § 2638.103.	\boxtimes		
6.3	 A copy of, a hyperlink to, or the address of a Web site containing the Principles of Ethical Conduct. 			
6.4	Other information the DAEO deems necessary.	\boxtimes		
6.5	The agency has established written procedures for supervisory ethics notices. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(d).	\boxtimes		
6.6	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(d).	\boxtimes		
6.7	The agency can demonstrate that there is an effective process for ensuring that new supervisors receive the required information within one year of appointment. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.306(b).	\boxtimes		
	COMMENTS			
	6.3: OGE noted that the samples of notices to supervisors issued in 2018 included a link to the Princ of notices issued in 2019 did not. DTRA ethics officials realized that the hyperlink was omitted by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) sends the notices to new supervisors on DTRA's behalf. DTRA ethal and DLA has addressed the issue. DTRA will also perform sampling in the future to ensure HR is included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2018 included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2018 included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2018 included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2018 included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2018 included a link to the Prince of notices issued in 2019 did not. DTRA ethics officials realized that the hyperlink was omitted by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) sends the notices to new supervisors on DTRA's behalf. DTRA ethics officials realized that the hyperlink was omitted by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) sends the notices to new supervisors on DTRA's behalf. DTRA ethics of the prince of notices is not prince of the prince of t	ne time OGI hics official	E conducted its in Is alerted DLA or	nspection. The f the omission

7.0	Initial Ethics Training			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	Each new employee of the agency subject to the Standards of Conduct must complete initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.			
7.1	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to conflicts of interest, impartiality, misuse of position and gifts. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(1).	\boxtimes		
7.2	The agency provided new employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of those provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included; instructions for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).	\boxtimes		
7.3	The agency has established written procedures for initial ethics training. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(f).	\boxtimes		
7.4	The agency's written procedures are reviewed by the DAEO each year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(f).	\boxtimes		
	DATA ANALYSIS	_	%	
7.5	Percentage of new employees who received initial ethics training. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.		93.8%	-

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Percentage of new employees who received initial ethics training within three months of



77.7%

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appointment. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(b).

7.6

	COMMENTS			
	7.6: Ethics officials acknowledged that many of DTRA's new employees were not completing months of their appointment. A DTRA ethics counselor previously offered the IET once a month conducting IET as part of the HR's first week of onboarding. HR provides a weeklong orientation Consequently, IET will be provided every two weeks. Additionally, once a month, ethics official employees who missed the IET in 2019 or during on-boarding. Ethics officials assured OGE that priority for DTRA in 2020.	h. On January 10 on for new emplo ls are also offeri	0, 2020, DTRA boyees each pay p ng an IET session	pegan period. on to those
8.0	Annual Ethics Training			
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
	Each calendar year, public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees must complete ethics training which meets specified requirements. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307 and 2638.308.			
3.1	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to financial conflicts of interest, impartiality, misuse of position and gifts. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(e)(1) and 2638.308(f)(1).			
3.2	The agency provided employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of those provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included; instruction for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).			
3.3	The agency's annual ethics training complies with the formatting requirements for public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(d) and 2638.308(e).			
3.4	The agency's program for annual ethics training complies with the tracking requirements for public filers, confidential filers, and certain other employees. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.307(f) and 2638.308(g).			
3.5	The agency can demonstrate it has an effective process for ensuring covered public filers, other than those whose pay is set at Level I or Level II of the Executive Schedule, complete live annuel ethics training at least once every two years. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(2).	al		
	DATA ANALYSIS	,	Training Format	
	DATA ANALISIS	Live	Interactive	:
	Percentage of public filers who completed annual ethics training before the end of the calendar <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(a).	/ear.		
3.6	Executive Schedule Level I and Level II. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(1).	N/A	N/A	
3.7	Other PAS and Equivalent. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(2).	N/A	N/A	
3.8	• SES and Equivalent. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.308(e)(3).	6%	94%	
	Percentage of confidential filers and certain other employees who completed annual ethics train before the end of the calendar year. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(d).	ing		
3.9	• Employees required to file an annual confidential financial disclosure report. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(1).	0%	100%	
3.10	Employees appointed by the President. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(2).	N/A	N/A	
3.11	• Employees of the Executive Office of the President. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(2).	N/A	N/A	
2 12	Contracting officers described in 41 U.S.C. & 2101 Sec. 5 C.E.D. & 2629 207(a)(2)	N/A	100%	

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<u> </u>					
8.13	Other employees designated by the head of the agency. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a)(4).	N/A	N/A		
	COMMENTS	•			
	8.6-8.7: DTRA has no PAS officials. 8.10-8.11: DTRA has no employees in these categories. 8.13: DTRA has no employees in this category.				
9.0	ETHICS ADVICE AND COUNSELING				
		Yes	No	N/A	
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT Passed on a sample collected by OCE swideness provided by accomply others officials to amplement		110	IVA	
9.1	Based on a sample collected by OGE, guidance provided by agency ethics officials to employees appears to be consistent with applicable laws and regulations. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.104(c)(4).				
	COMMENTS				
	None				
10.0	Special Government Employees (SGE) Serving on Advisory Committees and Boards				
	Confidential Financial Disclosure				
10.1	Number of SGEs serving on Advisory Committees and Boards.		0		
	DATA ANALYSIS		%		
10.2	Percentage of sampled confidential new entrant reports filed timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(b).		N/A		
10.3	Percentage of sampled reports reviewed within 60 days of receipt but not later than the SGE's first meeting. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).	st	N/A		
10.4	Percentage of sampled reports certified within 60 days of receipt. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605(a).		N/A		
	Ethics Training				
	COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A	
	Required ethics training must be provided to each SGE. See 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.304 and 2638.307.				
10.5	The training presentation(s) addressed concepts related to conflicts of interest, impartiality, misus of position and gifts. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(1).	se 🗆		\boxtimes	
10.6	The agency provided employees with either the following written materials or written instruction for accessing them: The summary of the Standards of Conduct distributed by the Office of Government Ethics or an equivalent summary prepared by the agency; provisions of any supplemental agency regulation that the DAEO determines to be relevant or a summary of thos provisions; such other written materials as the DAEO determines should be included ; instructions for contacting the agency's ethics officials. <i>See</i> 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(e)(2).			\boxtimes	
	DATA ANALYSIS		%		
10.7	Percentage of SGEs who received initial ethics training. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304.		N/A		
10.8	Percentage of SGEs who received initial ethics training timely. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(b)(2).		N/A		
10.9	Percentage of SGEs who received annual ethics training. See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(d)(2).		N/A		
	COMMENTS				
	10.2-10.9: DTR A does not have SGEs serving on boards or advisory committees				

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ISSUES	ISSUES IDENTIFIED AND RESOLVED DURING THE INSPECTION					
Element	ISSUE					
5.5	ISSUE: OGE found that notices to prospective public filers did not include the required language. DTRA ethics officials indicated that the job announcement did contain language pertaining to ethics-related filing requirements. Ethics officials amended their written procedures to include the required language in the offer letters sent to public filers. Additionally, ethics officials alerted the point of contact (POC) responsible for issuing the notices to DTRA's senior leaders of this deficiency. Consequently, the POC will ensure all letters in the future contain the necessary language for notices to prospective public filers.					
6.3	ISSUE: OGE noted that the samples of notices to supervisors issued in 2018 contained a link to the principles of ethics, but the samples of notices issued in 2019 did not contain the link to the Principles of Ethical Conduct. DTRA ethics officials alerted DLA of the omission and DLA is making the correction to notices to new supervisors. DTRA will also perform sampling in the future to ensure HR is including the requisite language.					
7.6	ISSUE: OGE found that only 77% of DTRA's new employees completed IET within the first three months. Subsequently, DTRA began conducting IET as part of the HR's onboarding of new employees. HR provides a weeklong orientation for new employees each pay period. Consequently, IET will be provided every two weeks.					

	RECOM	RECOMMENDATION		
#	Element	RECOMMENDATION	Compliance Due	
1	4.7	RECOMMENDATION: Ensure that new entrant confidential reports are filed timely. AGENCY RESPONSE: DTRA has taken the following corrective actions to ensure that new entrant reports are timely filed. In 2019, DTRA reorganized its structure, which created an influx of confidential financial disclosure filers ("filers"). Many employees transferred internally and therefore did not appear on the human resources' reports of new personnel. As a result, DTRA ethics officials did not have visibility of the personnel changes. In the fall, the DTRA ethics office issued its annual tasker to correctly identify filers for annual training. In response to the tasker, several supervisors identified the internal transfers as new filers. The filers used the actual date they assumed the positions, which made the new entrant reports untimely. With the reorganization complete, DTRA believes the issue is resolved. Additionally, DTRA will continue to work closely with supervisors and the human resources directorate to ensure that all internal transfers and new employees are timely identified and assigned new entrant OGE 450 reports.	November 2020	