March 1, 2012

Susan Chadick
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Defense Contract Audit Agency
8725 John J. Kingman Road
Suite 2135
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6219

Dear Ms. Chadick:

The United States Office of Government Ethics (OGE) recently conducted a follow-up review of the ethics program at the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) to determine whether the improvements recommended in our August 2011 report have been achieved. Below are the results of the follow-up review.

During OGE’s initial review of DCAA’s ethics program, OGE found that new entrant confidential financial disclosure filers were not being identified timely. OGE’s initial report recommended that DCAA ensure an effective mechanism is in place to timely identify new entrant confidential financial disclosure filers. To address OGE’s concern, DCAA developed a SharePoint database which is regularly updated by the Human Resources Offices at the 4 regions and headquarters. The database generates a report on newly promoted and reassigned GS-13 and above employees to assist ethics officials in identifying new entrant confidential employees. OGE’s follow-up review team also examined 41 of the 104 new entrant confidential financial disclosure reports filed between August and December 2011. The available evidence indicates that the use of the database has contributed to the timely identification of the new entrant filers; and therefore, the recommendation has been closed.

OGE’s initial review also suggested ethics officials to reduce the time of the final certification of confidential financial disclosure reports to 60 days or less from the filing date. The Deputy DAEO is using the Army Financial Disclosure Management System to track reports to ensure certification within 60 days. OGE encourages this approach and has closed this issue.
Based on our follow-up we have determined that DCAA has adequately implemented the recommendation in the August 2011 review report. As a result, OGE has closed the recommendation. In addition, OGE has considered DCAA’s actions regarding the suggestion in the August 2011 report and considers that issue closed as well. Thank you for your assistance during the follow-up process. Please contact me at 202-482-9317 if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Rashmi Bartlett
Associate Director