January 8, 2001 DT-01-003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Designated Agency Ethics Officials

FROM: Barbara A. Mullen-Roth

Associate Director for Education

and Program Services

SUBJECT: Introductory Ethics Courses Offered in February in

Washington, DC

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) will offer introductory ethics courses on February $13^{\rm th}$ and $27^{\rm th}$ at the Department of Labor (DOL) and on February $14^{\rm th}$ at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The course schedule and descriptions follow:

Tuesday, February 13, 2001 (DOL)

How to Identify Disqualifying

Financial Interests 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon SF 278 Review Course [Revised] 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 14, 2001 (OPM)

 SF 278 Review Course [Revised]
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

 Post Employment
 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 27, 2001 (DOL)

Seeking Employment9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noonWidely Attended Gatherings1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The **How to Identify Disqualifying Financial Interests** course provides new ethics officials with seven steps to identify disqualifying financial interests. This course also serves as a "nuts and bolts" refresher on 18 U.S.C. § 208.

The new and improved **SF 278 Review** course has been streamlined to focus reviewers on the substantive issues involved in the review process. Attendees will be expected to come to class with a basic understanding of the reporting requirements found in 5 C.F.R. 2634. The class will focus on

the criminal conflict of interest issues associated with each part of the form, how to identify potential conflicts, methods for resolving conflicts, and helpful hints for researching investments via the Internet and other research tools.

The **Introductory Post-Employment** course provides both an overview of the post-employment statute, 18 U.S.C. § 207, as well as a step-by-step methodology for analyzing post-employment situations.

The **Seeking Employment** course is a "back to basics" course designed to introduce new ethics officials to the seeking employment rules as well as key terms and concepts used in the rule. (A shorter version of this course was offered at the 2000 Ethics Conference.)

The Widely Attended Gatherings and Other Events gift exceptions course covers <u>Speaking and Similar Engagements</u> and <u>Widely Attended Gatherings</u>. Students are asked to bring their own "invitations" to class. Class time is spent discussing the six steps used to analyze these events and then using these steps to analyze the student's specific invitations.

All courses are offered **free of charge**; however, advance registration is required. Each person planning to attend **MUST** register by faxing a completed registration form to OGE as soon as possible, but **not later than one week before course date.** Registration will be handled on a **first-come basis** and each course is limited to 40 participants. NO TELEPHONE OR E-MAIL REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Please fax completed registration forms to:

Sheila Powers
OGE Event Coordinator
FAX Number: 202-208-8039 (or 8038)

OGE will confirm each student's registration by return fax several days prior to the date of the course. Because you are our primary means for advertising training courses, please circulate this memorandum with attached registration forms among your ethics officials as soon as possible. OGE plans to conduct additional introductory and intermediate ethics courses throughout FY 2001.

You can access confirmed OGE training information, cities and dates by calling OGE on 202-208-8000, extension 8201 or logging on to the OGE Web site at www.usoge.gov (under "What's New").

For any additional information about OGE training courses, you may contact Ms. Powers via E-mail: <sapowers@oge.gov> or phone: 202-208-8000, extension 1104.

Attachments: Registration Forms