Privacy Impact Assessment
for the **Secretary's Blog**

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1. What information will be collected for the system (Ex. Name, Social Security Number, annual income, etc)?

The Secretary's Blog does not collect any personally identifiable information ("PII") about individuals who access the Blog. In the future, the Secretary's Blog may collect a user's first name, last name, and e-mail address for registration purposes if a user opts to provide a comment to the Blog. However, currently, the comments feature is not available. If this changes, this PIA will be updated to reflect any new information.

2. Why is this information being collected?

As initially implemented, this system will not collect any PII. In the future, a user's first name, last name, and e-mail address may be collected for registration purposes if a user opts to provide a comment to the Blog. However, currently, the comments feature is not available.

3. How will the information be used?

This system will not initially collect PII. If the system collects PII in the future, the information will be used to assist Blog administrators in moderating comments and managing registered users.

4. Will this information be shared with any other agency or entity? If so, with whom?

This system will not initially collect PII. If the system collects PII in the future, this information will not be disclosed to any outside entity.

5. Describe the notice or opportunities for consent that are provided to individuals about what information is collected and how that information is shared with other organizations. (e.g., posted Privacy Notice).

Because no PII is being collected or shared with other organizations, no such notice or opportunity is provided. If PII is collected in the future, the registration

to the Secretary's Blog will be voluntary and the Department will not share individuals' information with any other parties. When such information is collected, the Department's privacy notice will apply. It can be found at: http://www.ed.gov/notices/privacy/index.html

6. How will the information be secured?

The Secretary's Blog will be hosted on ed.gov. The following guidelines and procedures have been implemented for protecting system sensitive data and resources.

- All physical access to Department of Education sites are controlled and monitored by security personnel who check each individual entering the building for his or her employee or visitor badge.

- The computer systems employed by the Department of Education offer a high degree of resistance to tampering and circumvention. The department uses special software programs for monitoring network traffic to identify unauthorized attempts to upload or change information, or otherwise to cause damage to this government computer system. These programs collect no information that would directly identify individuals, but they do collect information that could help us identify someone attempting to tamper with this Web site.

7. Is a system of records being created or updated with the collection of this information?

No. A system of records is not being created or updated because the Secretary's Blog does not contain any records retrieved by a unique identifier. Therefore, it is not categorized as a system of records.