

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

AGENCY: Office of Government Ethics

5 CFR Part 2600

**Organization and Functions of the Office of
Government Ethics**

55 FR 39589

Friday, September 28, 1990

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule describes the basic organization and functions of the Office of Government Ethics (OGE). It is necessitated because OGE, which was formerly a part of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), became a separate executive branch agency on October 1, 1989. The purpose of this rule is to make information related to the fundamental organization and functions of OGE readily available to the public and to other Federal agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 28, 1990.

ADDRESSES: Any comments on this document may be sent to: the Office of Government Ethics, suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917, Attention: Ms. Powell.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurie A. Powell, Office of Government Ethics, telephone (202/FTS) 523-5757, FAX (202/FTS) 523-6325.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Substantive Discussion

On October 1, 1989, in accordance with sections 3 and 10(b) of its 1988 reauthorization legislation (Pub. L. 100-598, 102 Stat. 3031, 3035), the Office of Government Ethics became a separate agency in the executive branch of the United States Government. See 5 U.S.C. appendix IV, section 401. OGE was formerly part of the Office of Personnel Management. In December 1989, OGE established its own chapter XVI of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as assigned by the Office of the Federal Register, for OGE's rules, regulations and general statements of policy. See 54 FR 50229-50231 (Dec. 5, 1989).

In this document, the Office of Government Ethics is issuing a short rule describing its basic organization and functions as a separate executive agency. The rule consists of three sections. Section 2600.101 briefly describes the origin and purpose of OGE in the 1978 Ethics in Government Act and its recent separate agency status. In section 2600.102, the current Washington, DC office address of OGE is given, and the fact that OGE does not have any regional offices is stated. The last section, 2600.103 of this rule, describes the functions of the five OGE offices--the Office of the Director, the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of Monitoring and Compliance, the Office of Education, and the Office of Administration.

B. Procedural Matters

Administrative Procedure Act

As Director of the Office of Government Ethics, I have determined that this regulation solely concerns matters of Federal agency organization and procedure. Thus, it is exempt from the notice and opportunity for public comment and delayed effective date requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

As Director of the Office of Government Ethics, I certify that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Thus, no Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6) analysis is required.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) does not apply since this regulation does not impose any information collection requirements requiring Office of Management and Budget approval thereunder.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 2600

Conflict of interests, Government employees, Organization and functions (Government agencies).

Approved: September 24, 1990.

Stephen D. Potts,
Director, Office of Government Ethics.