

Lamon-Kritikos, Nancy

From: Sanchez, Alba
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 12:50 PM
To: Rihm, Roger
Cc: Corbett, James; Lamon-Kritikos, Nancy; Pool, Stephen
Subject: OMB 12-12 - Seeking EDO guidance on implementation of new OMB conference approvals
Attachments: m-12-12 Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Ops.pdf; Agency Spons. Meeting & Conf. Spending.pdf

Hi Roger,

Happy Friday!! Not knowing who was going to be the lucky one, I had already sent a request for advise to Clare and Cherrie. (See below for details) We have sort of an urgent situation related to the impact of the ticket on an existing acquisition. We have a commercial contract award action in DC ready for execution that now is caught in this new OMB expanded approval guidance issued by OMB. RES has training scheduled for July 16. It was approved by the OD in accordance with EDO's memo dated 11/09/11 and has followed the competitive FAR requirements. RES is requesting award by May 23 in order for participants to plan travel and book related activities.

Need your advise as soon as possible in order to proceed with award or to determine what will be the new implementation of the approval process. I am here (Friday) all day today if you want to discuss. I will let Clare and Cherrie that you are handling this action.

Respectfully,

alba

From: Sanchez, Alba
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 11:58 AM
To: Kasputys, Clare; Corley, Cherrie
Cc: Lamon-Kritikos, Nancy; Pool, Stephen; Corbett, James; Daly, Jill
Subject: Seeking EDO guidance on implementation of new OMB conference approvals

Clare/Cherrie,

I need your assistance regarding the newest OMB guidance dated May 12, 2012 regarding agency conference approvals for conference exceeding \$100K. We have one commercial acquisition action that has followed all FAR rules, synopsised, competed and is ready for award. Now with the new OMB guidance issued I am seeking confirmation that the EDO continues to delegate approval of conferences (within EDO's approval level \$100K-500K) to the Office Directors (ODs) and Regional Administrators (RAs) in accordance with EDO's memo dated 11/9/2011, Agency-sponsored Meeting and Conference Spending.

OMB Memorandum dated May 11, 2012 from Zients (OMB Acting Director) "Promoting Efficient spending to Support Agency Operations" expands the efforts of the November 2011 OMB guidance by which NRC has been operating. New policy requires that when conferences expenses exceed \$100K, Deputy Secretaries (or their equivalent) shall approve the spending for the proposed conference. The EDO November memo delegated this approval to ODs and RAs.

This is a new policy (May 2012) and the corresponding NRC implementation guidance has not been issued. However we have determined that for purposes of OMB Conference approval, NRC has established that the EDO is the Deputy Secretary equivalent.

Please advise.

Alba

From: Konovitz, Lori
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 4:45 PM
To: Sanchez, Alba; Daly, Jill
Subject: FW: I need assistance interpreting...

Hi Alba & Jill,

I spoke with Neha Dhir (Chairman's Office) regarding the attached OMB memorandum titled *Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations* (May 11, 2012). She confirmed that agency head (for the purposes described in the memorandum regarding conference expenses in excess of \$500,000) is the Chairman. (Neha already had discussed this issue with the Chairman.) Neha also agreed that the Deputy Secretary or equivalent at NRC (for the purposes described in the memorandum regarding senior review/approval of conference expenses in excess of \$100,000) is the EDO. (Also, note that the EDO was identified as the Deputy Secretary or equivalent for the purposes described in the November 9, 2011 memorandum from the EDO to Those on the Attached List, titled *Agency-Sponsored Meeting and Conference Spending* (attached).

Hope this helps.

Lori

From: Sanchez, Alba
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2012 2:27 PM
To: Daly, Jill
Subject: I need assistance interpreting...

New OMB guidance on conferences costing >\$100K requires approval by the agency Deputy Secretary.

For conferences costing \$500K or more approval from the agency head.

Please assign to staff (I am sure this is documented somewhere) who is the corresponding executive at NRC?

Steve has one costing \$185K and we will need to follow the new approval process.

alba