December 2, 2010

Honorable Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, Chair
Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Herseth Sandlin:

Thank you for allowing The American Legion to participate in the Subcommittee hearing on Federal Contractor Compliance on September 29, 2010. I respectfully submit the following in response to your additional questions:

1. How can the VETS-100/100A report be amended to measure direct compliance?

   VETS needs to investigate who applied and how many of those were veterans. Number of contacts with local workforce centers and VSOs.

2. If the VETS-100/100A is no longer filed electronically where would a contractor file the reports?

   No comment.

3. What punishment can the DOL impose on a company that fails or refuses to submit their VETS-100/100A reports?

   VETS should mandate that companies who fail to report be put on a corrective action plan that ensures that veterans get first opportunities at the next openings available and that preference be given similar to that in the federal sector.

4. How can we best ensure that contractors are working with the eligible partners outlined in your testimony to do outreach to veterans?

   The VETS 100 should include reporting data on the workforce center where openings were listed and what the results of those listing produced.

5. What kind of staff and resources does OFCCP need to meets its mission when it relates to veterans

   OFCCP need a cadre of investigators designated solely to the investigation of veterans hiring by covered contractors. The current staff has too many hats to adequately enforce the veteran's statutes.

6. Do you think title of the legal authority Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act is a turn-off to contractors because it may imply Vietnam veterans only?

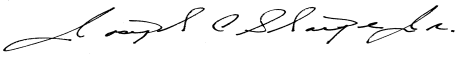
   It is a turnoff because it lends itself to misinterpretation.

   a) Should the name of this authority be changed?

   Yes, the title of the act should be changed to Veterans Contractor Hiring, or some such title that encompasses all eligible veterans.

Thank you for your continued commitment to America's veterans and their families

Sincerely



Joseph C. Sharpe, Jr., Director
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