

Standards, which apply to certain grant-aided State and local programs.

Federal Executive Boards Federal Executive Boards (FEBs) were established by Presidential memorandum on November 10, 1961, to improve internal Federal management practices and to provide a central focus for Federal participation in civic affairs in major metropolitan centers of Federal activity. They carry out their functions under OPM supervision and control.

FEBs serve as a means for disseminating information within the Federal Government and for promoting discussion of Federal policies and activities of importance to all Federal executives in the field. Each Board is composed of heads of Federal field offices in the metropolitan area. A chairman is elected annually from among the membership to provide overall leadership to the Board's operations. Committees and task forces carry out interagency projects consistent with the Board's mission.

Federal Executive Boards are located in 28 metropolitan areas that are important centers of Federal activity. These areas are as follows: Albuquerque-Santa Fe, NM; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Boston, MA; Buffalo, NY; Chicago, IL; Cincinnati, OH; Cleveland, OH; Dallas-Fort Worth, TX; Denver, CO; Detroit, MI; Honolulu, HI-Pacific; Houston, TX; Kansas City, MO; Los Angeles, CA; Miami, FL; New Orleans, LA; New York, NY; Newark, NJ; Oklahoma City, OK; Philadelphia, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland, OR; St. Louis, MO; San Antonio, TX; San Francisco,

CA; Seattle, WA; and the Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN).

Federal Executive Associations or Councils have been locally organized in approximately 65 other metropolitan areas to perform functions similar to the Federal Executive Boards but on a lesser scale of organization and activity.

For further information, contact the Director for Federal Executive Board Operations, Office of Personnel Management, Room 5524, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001. Phone, 202-606-1000.

Sources of Information

Contracts For information, contact the Chief, Contracting Division, Office of Personnel Management, Washington, DC 20415-0071. Phone, 202-606-2240. Internet, www.opm.gov/procure/index.htm.

Employment Information about Federal employment and current job openings is available from USAJobs (phone, 478-757-3000; TTY, 478-744-2299; Internet, www.usajobs.opm.gov). Contact information for your local OPM office is available in the blue pages of the phone book under U.S. Government, Office of Personnel Management. For information about employment opportunities within the Office of Personnel Management, contact the Director of Human Resources. Phone, 202-606-2400.

Publications The Chief, Publications Services Division, can provide information about Federal personnel management publications. Phone, 202-606-1822. Internet, <http://apps.opm.gov/publications>.

For further information, contact the Office of Communications, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001. Phone, 202-606-1800. TTY, 202-606-2532. Internet, www.opm.gov.

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The Office of Special Counsel investigates allegations of certain activities prohibited by civil service laws, rules, or regulations and litigates before the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Activities

The Office of Special Counsel (OSC) was established on January 1, 1979, by Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. app.). The Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. 1101 note), which became effective on January 11, 1979, enlarged its functions and powers. Pursuant to provisions of the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (5 U.S.C. 1211 *et seq.*), OSC functions as an independent investigative and prosecutorial agency within the executive branch which litigates before the Merit Systems Protection Board.

The primary role of OSC is to protect employees, former employees, and applicants for employment from prohibited personnel practices, especially reprisal for whistleblowing. Its basic areas of statutory responsibility are to do the following:

- receive and investigate allegations of prohibited personnel practices and other activities prohibited by civil service law, rule, or regulation and, if warranted, initiating corrective or disciplinary action;

- provide a secure channel through which information evidencing a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, gross mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority, or substantial and specific danger to public health or safety may be disclosed without fear of retaliation and without disclosure of identity, except with the employee's consent; and

- enforce the provisions of the Hatch Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

Sources of Information

Field offices are located in Dallas, TX (525 Griffin Street, Room 824, Box 103, Dallas, TX 75202. Phone, 214-747-1519. Fax, 214-767-2764); Oakland, CA (1301 Clay Street, Suite 1220N, Oakland, CA 94612-5217. Phone, 510-637-3460. Fax, 510-637-3474); and Detroit, MI (477 Michigan Avenue, Suite 2340, Detroit, MI 48226. Phone, 313-226-4496. Fax, 313-226-5606).

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