



## UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT **WASHINGTON, DC 20415-1000** APR 18 2003

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The Honorable Lane Evans United States House of Representatives 335 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Evans:

This responds to your letter requesting an update on the status of our veterans hiring audit. We share a common interest in veterans' employment issues and ensuring that agencies adhere to merit system principles and veterans' preference laws.

The onsite work for our veterans audit was completed on January 31, 2003, and we expect to issue the final report in the very near future. The report will provide details on the specific situations where veterans' preference violations were identified, including the corrective action taken by the agency or directed by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. I have instructed our staff to use a limited amount of additional time to review and verify all information and to make certain that the report is accurate. The report will also describe actions taken by OPM and include recommended actions Federal agencies and veterans' service organizations that are designed to further strengthen and promote the hiring of veterans in the Federal Government. We will provide you a copy of the report as soon as it is finalized, which should be within the next 10 days.

We look forward to working with you to address veterans' employment issues. If we can be of future assistance, please have your staff contact Mr. John Gartland, Director of our Office of Congressional Relations on 202-606-1300.

Sincerely,

Kay Coles James

Director