

October 2000

Roger C. Viadero, Inspector General, Department of Agriculture

Prior to his appointment as Inspector General in 1994, Mr. Viadero was a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation including Chief Internal Auditor for the New York Division, Management Consultant on Internal Audit and Audit Control Procedures for police departments across the country, professor at the FBI National Academy, and Special Agent-in-Charge of Auditing, and Chief Auditor for the FBI at headquarters. Prior to joining the FBI, he spent ten years with the New York City Police Department.

Mr. Viadero addressed the importance for managers to motivate their employees and gave many examples of improved employee performance that can occur when personnel are given a sense of importance. He also shared many career experiences that illustrated positive results that resulted from encouraging and supporting staff.

February 2001

Virginia L. Thomas, Director, Executive Branch Relations, The Heritage Foundation

Ms. Thomas is responsible for assisting the Foundation in bringing its resources and ideas to the decision-makers in the Bush Administration. She previously served as the Heritage Senior Fellow in Government Studies and coordinated the Foundation's efforts to monitor both government performance and congressional oversight activities. On Capitol Hill, Ms. Thomas helped implement the Government Performance and Results Act. In 1993, she joined Dick Arme's staff as Senior Policy Coordinator for the House Republican Conference. Prior to that, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor and a Labor Counsel for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Thomas also served on the legislative staff of former Representative Hal Daub of Nebraska.

Ms. Thomas addressed the Inspectors General and shared her ideas about the Administration's position on issues. She emphasized the importance for the IGS to develop relationships with Members of Congress, stressing the fact that "no one has time to read everything in this town." She urged IGS to become more public about their activities and achievements. Ms. Thomas believes that the IG community will enjoy a great deal of support from President Bush and his administration.