

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



OCT 4 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Agency Heads

From: Emory Rounds
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emory Rounds". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Emory Rounds".

As trusted leaders in the United States Government, we have the opportunity to improve the lives of the American people. This opportunity can be realized only with strong ethical leadership. Ethical failures hurt our ability to fulfill our missions and erode the trust of citizens in their government. Public confidence is vital to our success.

The Office of Government Ethics stands ready to help you accomplish your important work. By ensuring that government decisions are free from conflicts of interest, together we can protect the public's confidence in its government and succeed in our critical missions. To that end, in the coming months I will be scheduling a meeting with each of you to discuss the importance of ethical leadership and how the Office of Government Ethics can assist you and your ethics program.

Until then, as the leader of your agency and its ethics program, you can take action now to protect your agency and its mission. Consider demonstrating your commitment to ethical leadership by communicating it directly to your staff, meeting with your ethics team to make sure they have the support they need, and inviting your ethics officials to executive planning meetings to help foresee and prevent ethics challenges.

Together, we can secure the public's trust and deliver for the American people on their expectation of selfless governing and honest government.

Thank you for your service to our country.

