September 6, 2023 PA-23-05

PROGRAM ADVISORY

SUBJECT:

TO:	Designated Agency Ethics Officials
CC:	Chief Human Capital Officers (or equivalent) and Inspectors General
FROM:	Shelley K. Finlayson Acting Director

2023 Annual Agency Ethics Program Questionnaire

At the beginning of each calendar year, agencies are required to submit an annual report to the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE).¹ Agencies fulfill that obligation by submitting a response to the Annual Agency Ethics Program Questionnaire ("questionnaire").

This Program Advisory explains how and when to submit the questionnaire response, describes the changes made from the 2022 questionnaire, and provides executive branch agencies with an advance copy of the 2023 questionnaire. The advance copy provides agencies time to coordinate among their ethics officials, human capital officers, and Inspectors General in order to prepare complete and accurate responses. In addition, this Advisory explains how OGE uses the data and reminds agencies of the public availability of the questionnaire responses.

I. How and When to Submit a Response

The responses to the 2023 questionnaire are due to OGE by February 1, 2024.

In January 2024, OGE will email Designated Agency Ethics Officials (DAEOs) and their Alternates (ADAEOs) a link to the online form that agencies will use to submit their response to the questionnaire. Agencies must submit their responses electronically through the online form. OGE will not accept responses in any other format. OGE will accept only one response per agency, which must encompass all of an agency's components.

The questionnaire covers the 2023 calendar year (January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023), except as specified.

¹ 5 U.S.C. § 13122(e)(1); 5 C.F.R. § 2638.207(a).

II. Highlights of Changes to the Questionnaire

In the 2023 questionnaire, OGE added three new questions and substantively modified two questions:

- Q14 asks a new question about agency staff readiness to support a potential Presidential transition, as required by regulation (5 C.F.R. § 2638.210(a)).
- Q24 includes additional response options related to inclusion and accessibility.
- Q31 and Q32 ask new questions about the use of the PDF and Excel versions of OGE Forms 278e, 278-T, and 450.
- Q54 and Q55 change the format of the questions to numerical responses.

The attached advance copy of the questionnaire shows the changes in redline.

III. How OGE Uses the Data

OGE uses the questionnaire data to report on the executive branch ethics program to the public, Congress, and the ethics community. OGE also uses the information to carry out its oversight role, to gain knowledge about individual agency ethics programs and the executive branch program as a whole, and to make informed decisions about priorities and resource allocation.

IV. Public Availability

OGE will continue to make individual agency responses, as well as a summary report, publicly available on its website (<u>www.oge.gov</u>). Previous questionnaire responses can be found at <u>https://www.oge.gov/web/OGE.nsf/Agency%20Ethics%20Documents%20Search%20</u> <u>Collection?OpenForm</u> and previous summary reports may be found at: <u>https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/accessdocs_summary-reports</u>.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this advisory or the advance questionnaire, please contact Nicole Stein at 202-482-9255 or <u>nstein@oge.gov</u>.

Attachment

United States Office of Government Ethics

2023 AGENCY ETHICS PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

PART 1. INTRODUCTION

Executive branch agencies are required to submit an annual report to the United States Office of Government Ethics (OGE) concerning certain aspects of their ethics programs (Section 5 U.S.C. § 13122(e)(1)). Your response to OGE's Annual Ethics Program Questionnaire (the questionnaire) serves as your annual report.

OGE uses the data collected through the questionnaire in many ways, including sharing information about the entire executive branch ethics program with the public, Congress, and the ethics community. OGE also uses the information to carry out its oversight role, to gain knowledge about individual programs, as well as the overall ethics program, and to make informed decisions about resource allocations and priorities. OGE posts a summary of questionnaire responses and each agency's unedited responses on OGE's website. Therefore, please ensure your responses are suitable for publication.

OGE encourages each agency to use the annual exercise of completing the questionnaire as an opportunity to evaluate your ethics program.

DUE DATE: By regulation, the questionnaire is due to OGE by February 1, 2024. (5 C.F.R. § 2638.207(a)).

PART 2. INSTRUCTIONS

Your response to this questionnaire should reflect the 2023 calendar year (i.e., 1/1/2023 through 12/31/2023), except as specified. The answers provided should reflect the aggregate data for **your agency.** OGE will only accept **one submission per agency**.

Throughout the questionnaire you will be offered an opportunity to provide comments or explanations for your responses. Please use these comment sections to explain any discrepancies between levels of required activity and actual activity, and to explain significant changes from your 2022 report. To safeguard privacy, in your responses please avoid the use of Personally Identifiable Information (PII). After OGE has reviewed your questionnaire submission, you may be contacted for follow-up.

PART 3. DEFINITIONS

Agency Head: For purposes of this questionnaire, the term "agency head" means the head of an agency. In the case of a department, it means the Secretary of the department. In the case of a board or commission, it means the Chair of the board or commission.

D.C Metro Area: For purposes of this questionnaire, D.C. Metro Area means the District of Columbia, DC; Calvert County, MD; Charles County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Arlington County, VA; Clarke County, VA; Culpeper County, VA; Fairfax County, VA; Fauquier County, VA; Loudoun County, VA; Prince William County, VA; Rappahannock County, VA; Spotsylvania County, VA; Stafford County, VA; Warren County, VA; Alexandria city, VA; Fairfax city, VA; Falls Church city, VA; Fredericksburg city, VA; Manassas city, VA; Manassas Park city, VA; Jefferson County, WV; and, Silver Spring-Frederick-Rockville, MD Metropolitan Division Frederick County, and Montgomery County.

Agency Employees: For purposes of this questionnaire, the term "agency employees" means any officer or employee of an agency, including a special Government employee. It includes officers but not enlisted members of the uniformed services.

Special Government Employee (SGE): For purposes of this questionnaire, the term "special Government employee" (SGE) means an officer or employee who is retained, designated, appointed, or employed, to perform temporary duties, either on a full-time or intermittent basis, with or without compensation, for not more than 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days. The term "SGE" does not include enlisted members of the Armed Forces. It does, however, include these categories of officers or employees:

- Part-time United States commissioners;
- Reserve officers of the Armed Forces and officers of the National Guard of the United States (unless otherwise officers or employees of the United States) while on active duty solely for training or serving involuntarily.

PART 4. PROGRAM RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Agency: _____
- 2. Number of full-time agency employees as of December 31, 2023: _____
- 3. Information about the Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO):

a. Vacant (as of December 31,	\Box Yes (skip to #4a)
2023)?	\square No
b. Time in current DAEO position	🗆 Less than 1 year
	🗆 1-4 years
	🗆 5-9 years
	\Box 10 or more years
c. Total years performing ethics	🗆 Less than 1 year
duties	🗆 1-4 years
	🗆 5-9 years
	\Box 10 or more years
d. Percent of time spent on ethics	□ 0-25%
	□ 26-50%
	□ 51-75%
	□ 76-100%
e. Is the DAEO a career employee or	🗆 career employee
a political appointee?	political appointee
f. Number of reporting levels	0 (the agency head is the DAEO)
between the DAEO and the agency	
head.	□ 2
	□ 3
	🗆 4 or more

4. Information about the Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official (ADAEO):

a. Vacant (as of December 31,	□ Yes (<i>skip to #5)</i>
2023)?	🗆 No
	🗆 Less than 1 year
b. Time in current ADAEO position	🗆 1-4 years
	🗆 5-9 years
	\Box 10 or more years
c. Total years performing ethics	🗆 Less than 1 year
duties	🗆 1-4 years
	🗆 5-9 years
	\Box 10 or more years
d. Percent of time spent on ethics	□ 0-25%
	□ 26-50%

	□ 51-75% □ 76-100%
e. Is the ADAEO a career employee	🗆 career employee
or a political appointee?	political appointee

5. Number of employees, including the DAEO and ADAEO, who performed ethics program duties in 2023 (e.g., financial disclosure, education and training, advice and counseling, and program administration).

	Nu	mber of emplo	yees by hours	worked each we	ek	
Duty Station	Less than 1 hour per week	1-10 hours per week	11-20 hours per week	21-30 hours per week	31-40 hours per week	
	(up to .025 FTE*)	(up to .25 FTE*)	(up to .5 FTE*)	(up to .75 FTE*)	(up to 1 FTE*)	TOTAL
a. D.C. Metro area						
b. Outside the D.C. Metro area						
TOTAL	En l'alant					

*FTE = Full Time Equivalent

Example: The table below provides an example of an agency with 13 employees that performed ethics program duties in 2023.

	Number of employees by hours worked each week					
Duty Station	Less than 1 hour per week	1-10 hours per week	11-20 hours per week	21-30 hours per week	31-40 hours per week	
	(up to .025 FTE*)	(up to .25 FTE*)	(up to .5 FTE*)	(up to .75 FTE*)	(up to 1 FTE*)	TOTAL
a. D.C. Metro						
area	1	0	2	2	1	6
b. Outside the						
D.C. Metro area	1	3	3	0	0	7
TOTAL	2	3	5	2	1	13

- 6. In what areas did contractors support the ethics program? Select all that apply.
 - □ Not applicable (no contractors supported the ethics program)
 - IT services (e.g., developing or supporting electronic filing systems, applications, websites, and/or databases, etc.)
 Please describe the IT support (optional):
 - □ Administrative support (e.g., tracking filing or training requirements, sending reminders, data entry, etc.)

Please describe the administrative support (optional):____

- Substantive ethics support (e.g., providing training, initial review of financial disclosures, drafting advice for further review, etc.)
 Please describe the substantive support (optional):
- \Box Other (please describe)
- 7. Did your agency <u>receive</u> ethics services or support from another federal agency or federal entity? Do not include contractors, OGE support, or OMB support of MAX.gov.

🗆 Yes	
	Please provide the name(s) of the federal agency or entity:
	Describe the services or support received:
🗆 No	

- 8. Did your agency **provide** ethics program services or support for any board, commission, or agency that is independent of your agency?
 - 🗆 Yes

Please provide the name(s) of the board, commission, or agency: _____ Describe the services or support provided: _____

- 9. Does your agency's ethics program need additional resources? Check all that apply.
 - □ No additional resources needed
 - 🗆 Human Capital
 - □ Technology
 - Other (specify) _____
- 10. Did the agency head meet with the ethics staff to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the ethics program in 2023?

□ Yes
□ No
□ Not applicable (specify why) ______

- 11. Did your agency (e.g., ethics office, Inspector General, General Counsel, etc.) or any entity outside of your agency (e.g., GAO or private auditing firm) evaluate any aspect of the ethics program in 2023 (5 C.F.R. § 2638.104(c)(16))? <u>Exclude</u> program reviews conducted by OGE. Select all that apply.
 - □ My agency (e.g., ethics office, Inspector General, General Counsel, etc.) conducted an evaluation
 - □ An entity outside of my agency, other than OGE, (e.g., GAO or a private auditing firm) conducted an evaluation (please describe _____)
 - □ No evaluation was conducted (*skip to #13*)
- 12. What kind of changes resulted from the evaluation?
 - □ Programmatic changes (please describe) _____
 - Policy changes (please describe) _____
 - □ No changes resulted (specify why not) _____
 - Recommendations still being considered (please describe)
 - Not applicable (specify why) _____
- 13. Of the following required written procedures, which did you have in place? Check all that apply:
 - □ Financial disclosure program, including for the filing, review, and when applicable, public availability of public financial disclosure reports (5 C.F.R. § 2638.104(c)(8)(i))
 - □ Issuance of notice of ethical obligations in written offers of employment (5 C.F.R. § 2638.303)
 - □ Provision of initial ethics training (5 C.F.R. § 2638.304)
 - □ Issuance of ethics notice to new supervisors (5 C.F.R. § 2638.306)
 - □ None. Explain what steps you are taking to implement the required written procedures: _____
- 14. Did your agency head or DAEO evaluate, prior to November 5, 2023, whether your agency's ethics program has an adequate number of trained agency ethics officials to deliver effective support in the event of a Presidential transition (5 C.F.R. § 2638.210(a))?

□ Yes □ No (please explain) _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 4. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 5. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 15. Did the office(s) responsible for issuing ethics notices to prospective employees, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303, provide the DAEO with the written confirmation required pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2638.310?
 - □ Written confirmation not required because my agency has less than 1,000 employees
 - □ Written confirmation not required because the DAEO's office is responsible for issuing ethics notices to prospective employees
 - □ All of the offices provided written confirmation to the DAEO (*skip to #17*)
 - □ Some of the offices provided written confirmation to the DAEO (explain why not all offices, then skip to #17) _____
 - None of the offices provided written confirmation to the DAEO (explain why not all offices, then skip to #17) _____
- 16. Did written offers of employment for positions covered by the Standards of Conduct include the information required by 5 C.F.R. § 2638.303?
 - □ All of the written offers included the required information
 - □ Some of the written offers included the required information (please explain why not all offers)
 - □ None of the written offers included the required information (please explain why not all offers)
 - □ Not applicable because no offers of employment were made
 - Not applicable for another reason (please explain) ______

17. Initial Ethics Briefing

a. How many agency leaders, as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305(a), were required to receive ethics briefings by December 31, 2023? Exclude SGES that were expected to serve less than 60 days on a	
board, commission, or committee.	
i. How many new agency leaders received their briefing	
within 15 days of their appointment?	
ii. How many new agency leaders received their briefing	
beyond the 15-day requirement?	
iii. How many new agency leaders have yet to receive their	
briefing as of today?	

If applicable, please explain why some of the leaders received their briefing beyond the 15-day requirement or have yet to receive their briefing. _____

18. Initial Ethics Training

a. How many employees, as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(a), were required to receive Initial Ethics Training (IET) by December 31, 2023 (5 C.F.R. § 2638.304)? <u>Exclude</u> SGEs that were expected to serve less than 60 days on a board, commission, or committee. (<i>Note</i> : Include employees who were not required to receive the interactive portion of the IET, as provided in 5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(a)(2).)	
i. How many of those employees received IET within the 3- month requirement?	
ii. How many of those employees received IET beyond the 3-month requirement?	
iii. How many of those employee have not received IET as of today?	
iv. Do not track	

If applicable, please explain why some employees received IET beyond the 3-month requirement or have yet to receive IET.

Example: If an employee started at the agency on December 15, 2023, and the employee completed IET prior to the end of the calendar year, include the employee in your required and received numbers. If, on January 1, 2024, the employee has not completed IET, do not count that employee in your required numbers. Instead, include the employee in your 2024 questionnaire response to be filed in 2025.

- 19. Did the office(s) delegated the responsibility for providing initial ethics training (IET) provide the required written confirmation to the DAEO, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2638.310?
 - □ Written confirmation not required because my agency has less than 1,000 employees
 - □ Written confirmation not required because all IET was provided by an office under the DAEO's supervision
 - $\hfill\square$ All of the offices provided the written confirmation to the DAEO
 - Some of the offices provided the written confirmation to the DAEO (explain why not all offices) _____
 - None of the offices provided the written confirmation to the DAEO (explain why not all offices) _____

20. Did the head of the agency complete either initial ethics training and/or annual ethics training in 2023?

Yes
No (specify why) _____
Not applicable (specify why) _____

21. Required Annual Ethics Training

Type of covered employees (<u>Include</u> SGE filers)	# Required	# Received (of those required)
a. Executive Schedule Level I or Level II public filers (OGE Form 278e)		
b. All other public filers (OGE Form 278e)		
c. Confidential filers (OGE Form 450 and OGE- approved alternative confidential financial disclosure forms)		
d. Other employees required by 5 C.F.R. § 2638.307(a) (employees appointed by the President; employees of the Executive Office of the President; contracting officers; or, other employees designated by the head of the agency.)		
TOTAL		

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number of employees who were required to receive training and the number of employees who received training:______

- 22. Did your agency establish additional requirements for the agency's ethics education program, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2638.309?:
 - □ My agency established additional training requirements for employees performing ethics duties described in 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.104-105 (ethics and human resources officials). Please describe: _____
 - My agency established additional training requirements for other groups of employees, beyond those described in 5 C.F.R. §§ 2638.303-308 (notices to new employees and supervisors, initial ethics training, ethics briefings, annual ethics training). Please describe: ______
 - □ My agency established additional training procedures (e.g., certification procedures). See 5 C.F.R. § 2638.309(c). Please describe: _____
 - □ No, my agency did not establish additional training requirements

- 23. If your agency assessed risk to help inform the content, format, and/or timing of ethics education and communications, select all that apply (see <u>PA-19-05</u> for reference):
 - \Box Reviewed advice logs for common issues
 - \Box Discussed upcoming work and agency priorities with senior staff
 - $\hfill\square$ Talked to program managers about risks inherent in their work
 - □ Conducted surveys to identify common and emerging ethics risks
 - □ Talked to employees about the ethics concerns they encounter in the workplace
 - \Box Other (please specify)___
 - □ My agency did not assess risk
- 24. If your agency evaluated the effectiveness of your ethics education and/or communication, select all that apply (see <u>PA-19-05</u> for reference):
 - □ Conducted self-assessments to ensure that required employees are receiving training
 - □ Administered post-training evaluations to assess participants' perceptions of the training
 - □ Reviewed advice logs for increased activity after training presentations and communications
 - □ Held discussions with agency leaders and employees to evaluate whether the training and communications they received supported them in managing ethics risks
 - □ Incorporated inclusivity principles in the development and delivery of ethics education
 - □ Ensured ethics education was accessible (508 compliant) to participants
 - Other (please describe) _____
 - \Box My agency did not evaluate the effectiveness of ethics education

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 5. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 6. ADVICE, COUNSELING, AND REMEDIES

25. From the list below, select the three topics that your employees most frequently sought guidance on in 2023. Please rate them in order, so that the first topic is the topic on which employees sought guidance the most frequently.

Conflicting financial interests
Gift acceptance
Financial disclosure reporting
Impartiality in performance of official duties
Misuse of position, government resources, and information
Outside employment/activities
Post-employment restrictions
Travel, subsistence, and related expenses from non-federal sources
Other (specify)

- 26. Number of notification statements of negotiation or recusal under section 17(a) of the STOCK Act submitted to the ethics office in 2023 (see 5 C.F.R. § 2635.602(a)):_____
- 27. Number of 18 U.S.C. § 208 waivers granted in 2023:

	Number Granted in 2023	Number Sent to OGE
a. 208(b)(1) waivers		
b. 208(b)(3) waivers		

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number of waivers granted and the number provided to OGE. _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 6. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 7. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEMS

28. How often, within the 15-day deadline, did the human resources office(s) notify the DAEO of appointments to public and confidential financial disclosure filing positions (5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(1))?

		In Most	In Some Cases (specify why,	Never (specify	Not Applicable (specify why,
	In All Cases	Cases	below)	why, below)	below)
a. Public Filers					
b. Confidential					
Filers					

If not applicable, specify why. _____

If "never" or "in some cases," please explain further: ______

29. How often, within the 15-day deadline, did the human resources office(s) notify the DAEO of terminations from public financial disclosure filing positions (5 C.F.R. § 2638.105(a)(2))?

			In Some		
			Cases	Never	Not Applicable
			(specify why,	(specify	(specify why,
	In All Cases	In Most Cases	below)	why, below)	below)
a. Public Filers					

If not applicable, specify why. _____

If "never" or "in some cases," please explain further:

- 30. Were all public and confidential financial reports, in calendar year 2023, filed using an electronic filing system?
 - □ Yes, all reports were filed in an electronic filing system (*skip to #32*)
 - □ No
- 31. Indicate which forms your agency uses. Check all that apply.
 - □ 450 (pdf)
 - □ 450 (excel)
 - □ 278e (pdf)

- □ 278e (excel)
- 278-T (pdf)
- □ 278-T (excel)
- 32. Which electronic filing system(s) does your agency use?

□ Integrity ONLY (skip to Additional Comments for this Part) □ Integrity and Other (specify) _____

- 33. Indicate for which forms your agency uses the "Other" e-filing system. Check all that apply.
 - Public Financial Disclosure (OGE Form 278e)
 Provide the name of the other system: ______
 - Periodic Transactions (OGE Form 278-T) Provide the name of the other system:
 - Confidential Financial Disclosure (OGE Form 450 or OGE-approved alternative form)
 Provide the name of the other system:
- 34. Indicate your FY 2023 actual costs for using the e-filing system. *Note*: Because OGE does not charge fees to use *Integrity*, there are no reportable costs associated with the use of *Integrity*.

	Public (do not include <i>Integrity)</i>	Confidential
a. Amount paid to a non-federal vendor in FY 2023	Don't know/don't track	Don't know/don't track
b. Amount paid to a federal agency in FY 2023	Don't know/don't track	Don't know/don't track
c. Amount for all internal costs associated with operating an e- filing system (e.g., FTE, overhead, etc.) in FY 2023	Don't know/don't track	Don't know/don't track
Total FY 2023 actual costs		

35. Indicate the number of filers who filed electronically in fiscal year 2023.

	Public (<u>excluding</u> filers in <i>Integrity</i>)	Confidential
Number of financial disclosure filers, not reports, who filed electronically in FY 2023		

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 7. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 8. PUBLIC FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

36. Report the number of public financial disclosure reports (OGE Form 278e) required to be filed by December 31, 2023, <u>excluding</u> SGEs, and the number of reports actually filed (i.e., received) by December 31, 2023.

OGE Form 278	e Reports	PAS ²	Non- Career SES ³	Career SES ³	Schedule C	Other ⁴	TOTAL
a.	Required						
New Entrant	Filed						
	Required						
b. Annual	Filed						
	Required						
c. Termination	Filed						
	Required						
d. Combination ¹	Filed						
	Required						
Total	Filed						

¹ Includes reports filed to satisfy both annual and termination requirements, as well as new entrant and termination requirements.

² Presidential appointees confirmed by the Senate.

³ Senior Executive Service, Senior Foreign Service, Senior Cryptologic Service, Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service, etc. ⁴ Includes members of the Uniformed Services, Administrative Law Judges, Senior Level employees (SES Equivalent), administratively determined positions, officials in the Executive Office of the President who do not otherwise meet the criteria of another category in the chart, etc.

Example for new entrant and termination reports: If an employee joined (or departed) the agency on December 15, 2023, and the employee filed a new entrant (or termination) report prior to the end of the calendar year, include the report in your required and filed numbers. If, on January 1, 2024, the employee has not filed a new entrant (or termination) report, do not count that report in your required numbers. Instead, include the report in your 2024 questionnaire response to be filed in 2025.

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number of reports required to be filed and the actual number of reports filed.

37. Note the number of public financial disclosure reports certified or otherwise closed by your agency during the calendar year. **Exclude** reports of SGEs. Of those reports, indicate how many were initially reviewed within 60 days and how many were certified within 60 days. "Initially reviewed within 60 days" means having completed a technical review and conflicts analysis. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605 and section 4.02 of the Public Financial Disclosure Guide.

OGE For	m 278e Reports	PAS ²	Non- Career SES ³	Career SES ³	Schedule C	Other ⁴	TOTAL
	How many reports did your agency certify or close in 2023?						
	Of those certified or closed in 2023, how many were initially						
	reviewed within 60 days?						
	Of those certified or closed in 2023, how many were certified or						
a. New Entrant	closed within 60 days?						
	How many reports did						
	your agency certify or						
	close in 2023?						
	Of those certified or						
	closed in 2023, how						
	many were initially						
	reviewed within 60						
	days?						
	Of those certified or						
	closed in 2023, how						
	many were certified or						
b. Annual	closed within 60 days?						
	How many reports did						
	your agency certify or						
	close in 2023?						
	Of those certified or						
c. Termination	closed in 2023, how						

			r	1	
	many were initially				
	reviewed within 60				
	days?				
	Of those certified or				
	closed in 2023, how				
	many were certified or				
	closed within 60 days?				
	How many reports did				
	your agency certify or				
	close in 2023?				
	Of those certified or				
	closed in 2023, how				
	many were initially				
	reviewed within 60				
	days?				
	Of those certified or				
	closed in 2023, how				
	many were certified or				
d. Combination ¹	closed within 60 days?				
	How many reports did				
	your agency certify or				
	close in 2023?				
	Of those certified or				
	closed in 2023, how				
	many were initially				
	reviewed within 60				
	days?				
	Of those certified or				
	closed in 2023, how				
	many were certified or				
TOTAL	closed within 60 days?				

¹ Includes reports filed to satisfy both annual and termination requirements, as well as new entrant and termination requirements.

² Presidential appointees confirmed by the Senate.

³ Senior Executive Service, Senior Foreign Service, Senior Cryptologic Service, Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service, etc.

⁴ Includes members of the Uniformed Services, Administrative Law Judges, Senior Level employees (SES Equivalent),

administratively determined positions, officials in the Executive Office of the President who do not otherwise meet the criteria of another section, etc.

If applicable, please explain why some reports were reviewed more than 60 days after submission.

If applicable, please explain why some reports were certified or closed more than 60 days after submission. Check all that apply.

additional information was being sought
 remedial action was being taken
 other (specify) ______

Number of periodic transaction reports filed, <u>excluding</u> those filed by SGEs:

Note: Count the total number of periodic transaction reports filed. *Example 1*: If two employees each file 5 periodic transaction reports during the calendar year, report "10" in the space above. *Example 2*: If an employee files one report each month, each report is counted separately. Report "12".

39. Extension and late fees for new entrant, annual, termination, and combination public financial disclosure reports and periodic transaction reports, **excluding** those for reports filed by SGEs.

	Granted Filing Extension	Granted Waiver of Late Filing Fee	Paid Late Filing Fee
a. Number of OGE			
Form 278e Reports			
b. Number of OGE			
Form 278-T Reports			

- 40. Number of public financial disclosure filers reported in calendar year 2023 to the Attorney General for failure to file: _____
- 41. How many requests for public financial disclosure reports did you receive in 2023? Count each OGE Form 201 as one request, even if it contains a request for documents for multiple individuals.
- 42. How many documents requested under the Ethics in Government Act did you release in calendar year 2023? _____ Don't Know/Don't Track

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 8. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 9. CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

43. Report the number of confidential financial disclosure reports required to be filed by December 31, 2023, **excluding** SGEs, and the number of reports actually filed by December 31, 2023.

	a. Required	b. Filed		
		OGE Form 450		
		OGE-approved		
		alternative form		
Total				

Note: If a 450 filer leaves the filing position before the due date, the report is not required per 5 C.F.R. § 2634.903(a).

Example for new entrant reports: If an employee started at the agency on December 15, 2023, and filed a new entrant report prior to the end of the calendar year, include the report in your required and filed numbers. If, on January 1, 2024, the employee has not filed a new entrant report, do not count that report in your required numbers. Instead, include the report in your 2024 questionnaire response to be filed in 2025.

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number of reports required to be filed and the actual number of reports filed. _____

44. Note the number of confidential financial disclosure reports certified or otherwise closed by your agency during the calendar year. **Exclude** reports of SGEs. Of those reports, indicate how many were initially reviewed within 60 days and how many were certified within 60 days. "Initially reviewed within 60 days" means having completed a technical review and conflicts analysis. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605 and the Certification Requirements section of the Confidential Financial Disclosure Guide.

	How many reports did your agency certify or close in 2023?	Of those certified or closed in 2023, how many were initially reviewed within 60 days?	Of those certified or closed in 2023, how many were certified or closed within 60 days?
a. OGE Form 450 and OGE- approved alternative			

If applicable, please explain why some reports were reviewed more than 60 days after submission.

If applicable, please explain why some reports were certified or closed more than 60 days after submission. Check all that apply.

additional information was being sought
 remedial action was being taken
 other (specify) ______

45. Number of OGE 450 or OGE-approved alternative forms granted filing extensions in 2023: _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS PART 9. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 10. ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND CRIMINAL AND CIVIL STATUTES

46.

Number of disciplinary actions taken in 2023 based wholly or in part upon violations of the Standards of Conduct provisions (5 C.F.R. part 2635) or your agency's supplemental Standards (if applicable). For purposes of this question, disciplinary actions include removals, demotions, suspensions, and written reprimands or their equivalents

a. Total number of disciplinary actions that met the above criteria

Of those, how many were disciplinary actions were taken wholly or in part upon violations of:

i. Subpart A (General Provisions)	
ii. Subpart B (Gifts from Outside Sources)	
iii. Subpart C (Gifts Between Employees)	
iv. Subpart D (Conflicting Financial Interests)	
v. Subpart E (Impartiality in Performing Official Duties)	
vi. Subpart F (Seeking Other Employment)	
vii. Subpart G (Misuse of Position)	
viii. Subpart H (Outside Activities)	
iv. Agency's supplemental Standards of Conduct	

47. Number of disciplinary actions taken in 2023 based wholly or in part upon violations of the criminal conflict of interest statutes (18 U.S.C. §§ 203, 205, 208, and 209), failure to file or filing false public financial disclosures (5 U.S.C. § 13106 or 18 U.S.C. § 1001), civil matters involving outside earned income (5 U.S.C. § 13143), or outside activities (5 U.S.C. § 13144). For purposes of this question, disciplinary actions include removals, demotions, suspensions, and written reprimands or their equivalents

a. Disciplinary actions taken based on violation of ethics laws

Of those, how many were disciplinary actions taken based wholly or in part upon violations of:

i. 18 U.S.C. § 203 (Compensation in Matters Affecting the	
Government)	
ii. 18 U.S.C. § 205 (Claims Against and Matters Affecting the	
Government)	
iii. 18 U.S.C. § 208 (Acts Affecting a Personal Financial Interest)	

iv. 18 U.S.C. § 209 (Supplementation of Salary)	
v. 5 U.S.C. § 13106 or 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (Failure to File or Filing False	
Public Financial Disclosures)	
vi. 5 U.S.C. § 13143 (Outside Earned Income)	
vii. 5 U.S.C. § 13144 (Outside Activities)	

48. Number of referrals made in 2023 to the Department of Justice (DOJ) of potential violations of the conflict of interest statutes (18 U.S.C. §§ 203, 205, 207, 208, 209), failure to file or filing false public financial disclosures (5 U.S.C. § 13106 or 18 U.S.C. § 1001), civil matters involving outside earned income (5 U.S.C. § 13143) or outside activities (5 U.S.C. § 13144)

a. Referrals to Department of Justice

Of the referrals to DOJ (line a.), please note the DOJ referral status

b. DOJ Referral Status	
i. How many of those referrals were accepted for prosecution?	
ii. How many of those referrals were declined for prosecution?	
iii. How many of those referrals were pending DOJ's decision as of	
December 31, 2023?	

Of the referrals to DOJ (line a.), please note the agency disciplinary status

c. Agency Disciplinary Action Status	
i. Of the cases referred to DOJ, how many resulted in disciplinary or corrective action?	
ii. Of the cases referred to DOJ, how many resulted in a determination not to take disciplinary or corrective action?	
iii. Of the cases referred to DOJ, how many are pending a determination as to whether disciplinary or corrective action will be taken?	
iv. Of the cases referred to DOJ, how many involved employees who left the agency before the agency determined whether or not to take disciplinary action?	

v. Of the cases referred to DOJ, how many involved 18 U.S.C. § 207, such that there was no option for disciplinary action?

49. Did your agency notify OGE of all referral(s) and disposition(s) of the referral(s) via OGE Form 202 (as required by 5 C.F.R. § 2638.206(a))?

□ Yes

□ No (specify why) _____

 $\hfill\square$ Not applicable because no covered referrals were made to DOJ

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 10. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 11. ETHICS PLEDGE ASSESSMENT (Executive Order 13989 ("Ethics Pledge"))

50. Were any full-time non-career appointees (e.g., Presidentially Appointed Senate Confirmed (PAS), Presidentially Appointed (PA), non-career Senior Executive Service ((SES), Schedule C, etc.) appointed to or by your agency from January 1 through December 31, 2023?

> □ Yes □ No (*skip to #53*)

Note: For guidance on what constitutes a full-time non-career appointee for purposes of the Ethics Pledge, see <u>LA-21-07</u>.

51. For each category of appointee, provide the number of full-time non-career appointees appointed between January 1 and December 31, 2023, and indicate the number who did and did not sign the Ethics Pledge.

Number of Full-Time Non-Career Appointees		Type of Full-Time Non-Career Appointees by Category					
				Non- career	Schedule		
		PAS	PA	SES	C	Other	Total
a. Appointed 12/31/2023	01/01/2023 -						
i.	Signed the Ethics Pledge in 2023						
ii.	Required to sign the Pledge in 2023 but signed in 2024						
iii.	Required to sign the Pledge, but did not sign (please explain)						
iv.	Not required to sign the Pledge because occupied an exempt non-policymaking position (Schedule C or other comparable authority)						
V.	Not required to sign the Pledge because appointed without						

	break in service after serving in another position for which the Ethics Pledge was already signed			
vi.	Not required to sign for another reason (please explain)			

For each appointee identified in line iii, please explain why that appointee did not sign the Pledge. _____

For each appointee identified in line vi, please explain why that appointee was not required to sign the Pledge. _____

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number appointed and the number who signed or did not sign the Pledge. _____

- 52. Registered Lobbyist/and or Registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act
 - a. How many appointees were registered lobbyists and/or registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act during the two years prior to their appointment? For purposes of this question, please include individuals appointed between January 1 and December 31, 2023, and subject to the Ethics Pledge, as well as holdover appointees subject to the Pledge. _____ (*if 0 skip to #53*)
 - b. How many of those appointees who were registered lobbyists and/or registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act during the two years prior to their appointment have an ethics agreement addressing their obligations under paragraph 3 of the Ethics Pledge?
 - c. For any of those appointees who do not have an ethics agreement, please provide their name and an explanation (e.g., Pledge paragraph 3 not reasonably expected to limit participation in any agency matters because appointee's duties sufficiently unrelated to prior lobbying activities).

53. Section 3 of Executive Order 13989 provides a waiver mechanism for the restrictions contained in the Ethics Pledge. Indicate below how many waivers were granted to appointees in your agency in 2023, the names of those individuals granted waivers in 2023, and which of the Pledge paragraphs were implicated.

	Number of Ethics Pledge Waivers Granted By Pledge Paragraph	Name(s) of Individual(s) Granted Ethics Pledge Waivers
a. Paragraph 1		
b. Paragraph 2		
c. Paragraph 3		
d. Paragraph 4		
e. Paragraph 5		
f. Paragraph 6		
g. Paragraph 7		
h. Paragraph 8		
i. Paragraph 9		
j. Other (please explain)		

If other, please explain.	

- 54. Number of violations, if any, of Executive Order 13989 in 2023.
- 55. Number of enforcement actions, if any, taken in 2023 as a result of violations of the Executive Order 13989 (regardless of whether the violation itself took place in 2023 or earlier).

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 11. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

PART 12. SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES (SGEs)

- 56. How many Special Government Employees (SGEs) did your agency have, in total, during calendar year 2023? ______ (*if zero, skip to Additional Comments for this Part*)
- 57. Initial Ethics Training

a. How many SGEs who were expected to serve for 60 days or less o	na
board, commission, or committee were required to receive Initial Et	hics
Training (IET) by December 31, 2023 (5 C.F.R. § 2638.304(b)(2))?	
i. How many of those SGEs received IET before or at the	
beginning of the first meeting?	
ii. How many of those SGEs received IET after the first meetir	ng?
iii. How many of those SGEs have not received IET as of today	y?

If applicable, please explain why some SGEs received IET after the first meeting or have yet to receive IET. _____

58. Report the number of SGE public and confidential financial disclosure reports required to be filed by December 31, 2023, and the number of reports actually filed by December 31, 2023.

	Confidential Reports (OGE Form 450 or OGE- Approved Alternative Form)		Public Re (OGE Forn	-
	Required	Filed	Required	Filed
a. Advisory Committee Members (FACA)				
b. Advisory Committee Members (non-FACA)				
c. Experts/Consultants				
d. Board Members				
e. Commissioners				
f. Other				
TOTAL				

Example for new entrant and termination reports: If an employee joined (or departed) the agency on December 15, 2023, and filed a new entrant (or termination) report prior to the end of the calendar year, include the report in your required and filed numbers.

If, on January 1, the employee has not filed a new entrant (or termination) report, do not count that report in your required numbers. Instead, include the report in your 2024 questionnaire response to be filed in 2025.

If applicable, please explain discrepancies between the number of reports required to be filed and the actual number of reports filed. _____

59. Note the number of SGE disclosure reports certified or otherwise closed by your agency during the calendar year. Of those reports, indicate how many were initially reviewed within 60 days and how many were certified within 60 days. "Initially reviewed within 60 days" means having completed a technical review and conflicts analysis. See 5 C.F.R. § 2634.605, section 4.02 of the Public Financial Disclosure Guide, and the Certification Requirements section of the Confidential Financial Disclosure Guide.

	Confidential	Public Reports
	Reports	
a. How many reports did your		
agency certify or close in 2023?		
b. Of those certified or closed in		
2023, how many were initially		
reviewed within 60 days?		
c. Of those certified or closed in		
2023, how many were certified		
or closed within 60 days?		

If applicable, please explain why some reports were reviewed more than 60 days after submission.

If applicable, please explain why some reports were certified or closed more than 60 days after submission. Check all that apply.

\Box additional information was being sought
remedial action was being taken
other (specify)

60. Number of SGEs excluded from all or a portion of the confidential filing requirements per 5 C.F.R. § 2634.904(b): _____

61. Extensions and late filing fees for SGE financial disclosure reports:

	Granted filing extension	Granted waiver of late filing fee	Paid late filing fee
a. Number of OGE Form 278e Reports			
b. Number of OGE Form 450 or OGE- Approved Alternative Forms			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PART 12. Please indicate the question number to which the comment corresponds.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE COMMENTS:

Point of contact to answer OGE follow-up questions regarding this questionnaire:

Name:			

Title/Position: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: ______

What is the preferred mailing address for the Agency Head, Designated Agency Ethics Official, Chief Human Capital Officer (or equivalent), and Inspector General:

Agency Head Street: City: State: Zip code: DAEO Street: City: State: Zip code: Chief Human Capital Officer (or equivalent) Street: City: State: Zip code: **Inspector General** Not applicable Street: City: State: Zip code:

By submitting, the agency attests that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, all information in the above referenced data reported is accurate and complete.