



March 14, 2019

## MEMORANDUM FOR DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum 19-001, Equal Employment Opportunity

## POINT OF CONTACT: Diversity and Equal Opportunity Office

I am committed to providing a workplace at DSS that fosters equal opportunity and is free of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Accordingly, I expect all DSS employees and contract personnel to follow equal employment opportunity principles: you must not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex (including sexual orientation), gender identity, political affiliation, marital status, parental status, veteran status, pregnancy, national origin, age (40 and over), disability, or protected genetic information. These protections apply not only to management practices and decisions, recruitment and hiring, performance appraisals, promotions, training opportunities, and other workplace behavior, but also to individuals' participation in any part of the discrimination complaint process.

We rely on a professional workforce that draws strength from diversity of background, thought, and experience. As the agency prepares for transformational changes in 2019, dedication to EEO principles will be all the more critical to our success. To meet mission demands, we must attract, develop, and retain a dynamic, agile workforce that reflects the rich diversity of the world we live in. The wide range of thinking, creativity, and analysis necessary to accomplish our mission demands that we examine issues from multiple viewpoints. Our ability to foster fairness, equity, and inclusion, and bring individual experiences and perspectives together will enhance innovation and problem-solving. EEO principles are not only a matter of conforming to legal requirements; they are an economic and national security imperative.

A copy of this policy will be posted on the intranet and all DSS bulletin boards. For questions about EEO matters, please contact Mr. Raymond Campbell, Director, Diversity and Equal Opportunity (DEO) at (571) 305-6726. This memorandum supersedes the March 15, 2018 Policy Memorandum 18-001, Equal Employment Opportunity.

Employees or applicants who believe they have been discriminated against have the right to file a complaint with the DEO office. For additional information about the EEO complaint process, or if you have questions about the policy or a specific situation related to this policy, please contact Dr. Carey Williams, DEO Deputy Director, at <u>carey.j.williams2.civ@mail.mil</u> or (571) 305-6297.

Daniel E. Payne Director

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