FURLOUGH FACT SHEET
September 30, 2013

General Guidance

- Unless instructed otherwise by your supervisor you must complete your shutdown functions within the first 4 hours of work day.
- Your furlough letter provides you information about the furlough and additional information such as an Unemployment Compensation, Notice to Creditor.
- There will be no admittance of furloughed employees to the federal facility until official notice to return to duty is received.
- You are prohibited from performing work while furloughed and therefore, you are not authorized to utilize any government-issued equipment while on furlough (e.g., blackberry, laptop, iPad, government vehicle, etc.).
- You are not authorized to remotely access government IT systems (e.g. Department webmail, Commerce Learning Center, VPN access to networked applications or information, etc.) to conduct any official business, even if those equipment/services remain available and functional.
- Although Department policies allow for limited personal use of government resources (including IT resources such as official e-mail account or government issued phone), no use of government resources for personal use is authorized while on furlough, even if those equipment/services remain available and functional.
- Properly secure all classified national security information (Confidential, Secret and Top Secret), Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) and Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Ensure security containers are properly secured and recorded via the SF 702. Ensure SIPRNet and JWICS terminals are logged-out and classified rooms/SCIFs are properly secured.

Orderly Shutdown Activities - October 1, 2013

- Secure all personal belongings and effects, personal financial paperwork related to employment (SF-50, Life and health insurance information, Leave and Earning statements, etc.), and other personnel documentation.
- Take personal belongings home or at least lock them up in your work area.
- Prepare out-of-office messages for your e-mail and voicemail (see suggested script below).
- Log off all workstations, laptops, iPads, and servers. Shut down printers, copiers, and any non-networked computers, and leave networked computers turned on unless you receive local bureau-level guidance recommending turning off networked machines.
- Do not remove government issued equipment, including laptops. It is okay to remove a government issued wireless device (Blackberry, cell phone, iPad) to ensure they are...
secure and not lost upon your return. Please keep in mind; you will not be able to use these devices during a shutdown.

- Take any food stored home, clean out refrigerators, microwaves.
- Unplug all space heaters and coffee makers.
- Turn off all lights.
- Place trash outside of the office door in the main corridor for pick-up (the cleaning contractor can only pick up trash from hallways and bathrooms during a shutdown).
- Water plants or take them with you when you leave.
- Lock inside and main doors leading to the outside corridor.
- Provide supervisor with all updated contact information.
- All employees/timekeepers must code T&As and supervisors/timekeepers must certify T&As by 12:00 noon local time, Tuesday, October 1, 2013.
- Employees must code the entire day in webTA under “Leave and Other Time,” as Furlough and record in the remarks section or another mechanism (such as an Excel spreadsheet or other format) the time worked to conduct orderly shutdown activities, up to four (4) hours.
- If an employee is unable/unavailable to conduct an orderly shutdown, they will code Furlough for the entire day on October 1, 2013. No form of paid leave can be charged for this time period.
- Ensure time and attendance is validated by the timekeeper for absent employees and certified by the managers before leaving.
- Retrieve any medications that may be needed during the shutdown.
- Stay tuned to local news and check the OPM web site at www.opm.gov for status of shutdown, or call the Commerce information line at 202-482-7400 or 877-860-2329.

**Suggested Out-of-Office Message for e-mail and voicemail:**

I am currently unavailable to take e-mails (or phone calls in case of voicemail) due to the lapse in FY14 appropriations. If you leave a message, I will be unable to respond until an appropriations bill has passed and operations are resumed. I sincerely regret this inconvenience.