September 30, 2013

OMB BULLETIN NO. 13-02

TO THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENTS

SUBJECT: Apportionment of Obligational Authority for Necessary Agency Operations in the Absence of Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriations

1. Purpose and Background. The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113-6) provides funding and authority for agencies to operate through the end of September 30, 2013. Because a bill providing appropriations beyond fiscal year 2013 has not been enacted, there will be a lapse in appropriations beginning on October 1, 2013.

During a lapse in appropriations, each agency must operate in accordance with the contingency plan that the agency has prepared under OMB Circular No. A-11, section 124, and the applicable guidance that has been issued by the Department of Justice and the Office of Management and Budget.

In order for agencies to implement their contingency plans, and as specified in section 2 below, I am automatically apportioning the obligational authority as provided by the Antideficiency Act that is necessary for agencies to incur obligations in accordance with their contingency plans during the duration of the lapse in appropriations.

2. Automatic Apportionments. I automatically apportion amounts necessary for obligations required in order to carry out your agency's contingency plan required by OMB Circular No. A-11, section 124. As a reminder, this automatic apportionment provides authority to obligate such funds, but does not provide any authority to liquidate such funds. This automatic apportionment does not affect previously approved FY 2014 apportionments (e.g., apportionments of carryover or other multi-year funding). Therefore, agencies continue to operate under such previously approved apportionments for those other funding sources.

3. Reporting. Following enactment of a continuing or full-year appropriation for FY 2014, you will be required to provide your RMO an accounting of amounts obligated during this lapse in appropriations.

Sylvia M. Burwell
Director