SUBJECT: COMPENDIUM OF 1996 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT LETTERS

The following is a compendium of the financial management letters issued during the 1996 calendar year. For your convenience, a compendium of payroll office letters issued during the 1996 calendar year is also enclosed. If you find that you did not receive any of these letters and you would like a copy of the missing letter(s), please contact us.

Please note: you may access and download both financial management letters as well as payroll office letters in OPM Mainstreet. Instructions on accessing the Payroll Office Forum can be found in PROL 95-02. Please note - the Retirement and Insurance Forum is now the "A" forum instead of the "J" forum. FML's are found under Payroll Office Letters - Other.

If you have any questions on this matter, or to request copies, please contact us on (202) 606-0666.

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Enclosures
announced the adoption of the "Federal Employee Benefit Programs Financial Management Letter" as an additional means of communicating financial management information.

provided guidance in processing Retirement, Health Benefits, and Life Insurance withholdings and contributions for employees affected by lapse in appropriations that began on December 15, 1995.

contained instructions for the March 1996 Headcount.

(Date: June 5, 1996) provided notification of the abolishment of the 4-day rule and its replacement by new rules governing withholdings and contributions for the FEHB and the FEGLI programs.

(Date: July 8, 1996) provided an update on budget proposals involving the CSRS and FERS.

transmitted the Internal Control Questionnaire and the Annual Confirmation Report.

provided information on supplemental contributions required for voluntary separation incentive payments.

provided information for computing expenses for pensions and post retirement benefits for early implementation of Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards Number 5 -- "Accounting for Liabilities of the Federal Government."

transmitted copies of the following Payroll Office Letters: P-96-04, which provided an additional reminder for employing agencies to remit to the CSRDF $80 for each employee covered by the CSRS and FERS on March 31, 1996; P-96-06, which provided information on elections of retirement coverage by employees of nonappropriated fund instrumentalities; P-96-07, which provided instructions for the September 1996 Headcount; and P-96-08 provided information on supplemental contributions required for voluntary separation incentive payments.

provided 1997 Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premium rates and other Open Season information.

provided the 1997 interest rate for service credit deposits and redeposits.