

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**



Office of Government Ethics
Office of Open Government

February 5, 2014

Honorable Kenyan McDuffie
Committee on Government Operations
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 506
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Board of Ethics and Government Accountability's
Responses to the Performance Oversight Questions**

Dear Councilmember McDuffie:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide responses to the performance oversight questions contained in the Committee on Government Operations Memorandum (Director Ronan Gulstone) dated January 24, 2014. The members of the Board, Ms. Hughes and I look forward to providing testimony and answering these and any other questions you might have at the Hearing scheduled on February 10, 2014. The questions and answers are set forth below:

1. **Please provide a complete, up-to-date organizational chart for each division within the agency including and, either attached or separately, an explanation of the roles and responsibilities for each division and subdivision.**
 - a. **Please include a list of the employees (name and title) for each subdivision and the number of vacant positions.**
 - b. **Please provide a narrative explanation of any organizational changes made during the previous year.**

Response:

The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) investigates alleged ethics laws violations by District government employees and public officials, provides binding ethics advice and conducts mandatory training on the D.C. Government's Code of Conduct. See 'BEGA Organizational Chart' as Exhibit 1.

The role of the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is to investigate alleged ethics violations by District government employees and public officials, provide binding ethics advice and conduct mandatory training on the D.C. Government's Code of Conduct. The OGE also administers and enforces the District's financial disclosure, lobbyist reporting and lobbyist registration regulations.

The role of the Office of Open Government (OOG) is to ensure that District government operations at every level are transparent, open to the public, and promote civic engagement. The OOG has oversight over compliance of all public bodies, officials, and employees, including the Council of the District of Columbia, with the Open Meetings Act (OMA) (DC Official Code §§2-571 through 580; DC Official Code §§2-592, 593). The OOG may bring a lawsuit in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia against a public body for failure to comply with the OMA. The OOG ensures compliance of public bodies with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), but does not retain enforcement authority.

- (a) There are no subdivisions within the Agency.
- (b) There were no organizational changes in the previous year. The Director of the Office of Open Government was hired. An additional Attorney Advisor was authorized and hired in the last year. This attorney serves as a legal writer for OGE with regard to ethics opinions, and separately as an advisor for the Board Members during investigations/contested proceedings when it would otherwise be inappropriate for the Director of OGE to do so. An IT position to reside under the Office of Open Government was authorized, but remains unfilled.

2. Please provide a complete, up-to-date position listing for your agency, which includes the following information:

- a. Title of position
- b. Name of employee or statement that the position is vacant (if so the length of the vacancy), unfunded, or proposed.
- c. Date employee began in position
- d. Salary and fringe benefits, including the specific grade, series, and step of position
- e. Job status (continuing/term/temporary/contract)

Response:

Please see 'BEGA (AG0) Position Listing' as *Exhibit 2*.

3. Please provide a list of any contractors or consultants performing work within your office, including job description, salary, length of contract, and city of residence.

Response:

