



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

March 29, 2011

Danielle Brian, Executive Director
Project On Government Oversight
1100 G Street, NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Brian:

Thank you for your letter of January 28, 2011, concerning the recent guidance that OMB issued on the WikiLeaks incident and the assessments that are being conducted pursuant to those Memoranda.

You have raised the concern that some of the items in the January 3, 2011, checklist distributed to departments and agencies may be viewed as imposing new requirements on certain agencies. As the cover memo from the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office and the National Counterintelligence Executive notes, however, the checklist reflects "existing requirements and questions" for assessment teams to utilize, as appropriate, in reviewing the current state of information systems security. The checklist does not impose any new agency requirements, and agencies accordingly are directed only to self-assess their compliance with existing requirements.

We appreciate your bringing the various concerns outlined in your letter to our attention. Relevant personnel from the Information Security Oversight Office, the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive, and my Office would welcome the opportunity to hear from you in person. At your convenience, please contact Carla Stone at 202-395-7545 or at cstone@omb.eop.gov to provide some dates and times that work best for everyone.

Thank you and we look forward to the continued dialogue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jacob J. Lew
Director

Identical Letter Sent to:

Laura W. Murphy, Director, Washington Legislative Office, American Civil Liberties Union

Lynne Bradley, Director, Office of Government Relations, American Library Association

Elizabeth Goitein, Co-Director, Liberty and National Security Program, Brennan

Center for Justice

Anne Weismann, Chief Counsel, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington

Sharon Bradford Franklin, Senior Counsel, Rule of Law Program, The Constitution Project

Mark Cohen, Executive Director, Government Accountability Project

Sean Moulton, Director, Federal Information Policy OMB Watch

Patrice McDermott, Director, OpenTheGovernment.org

Danielle Brian, Executive Director, Project On Government Oversight