



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
Washington, DC 20415

The Director

Wednesday, April 10, 2002

MSG 2002-026b

MEMORANDUM FOR: Heads Of Executive Departments And Agencies

FROM: Kay Coles James
Director

Subject: Public Service Recognition Week

Public service is a long and honored tradition in this country, beginning with the very inception of our Nation in 1776. Today, as we begin the 21st century, America is faced with changes in our culture, in our country, and in our world, and as the world changes, so do the challenges that face our Federal government. Not only must we address educating our children and our country's aging workforce, but our survival in a shifting global economy and the changing nature of threats to our national security, as seen in the events of September 11, 2001.

Throughout the Nation and around the world, public employees use Public Service Recognition Week to educate citizens about the many ways in which the Federal government serves the people and how Federal government services make life better for all of us. This year's observance will take place May 6-12. From May 9-12, there will be a large exhibit on the National Mall here in Washington, D.C. showcasing many of our Federal government agencies and branches of the military, and highlighting the services these agencies provide.

In addition to the Mall exhibits, I would like to encourage you to recognize the employees within your own agencies, to let them know how much their service is appreciated. There are many activities that can be employed to do this, including festivals, open houses, parades, employee talent shows, community clean-up days, and fund-raising events to benefit charity. The Public Employees Roundtable offers a free guide, "How to Celebrate Public Service Recognition Week" with suggestions on how to recognize employees within your own organization. This guide is available at their website theroundtable.org.

We are all proud of the men and women who serve our country, both in and out of uniform. The United States of America is a great and prosperous Nation, and our public service employees are essential to its continued success. I hope you will join me in thanking our Federal employees for a job well done.