

SUBJECT: A Message from the Acting Attorney General to Department of Justice Employees and Contractors

Dear Colleagues,

As the partial government shutdown continues, I want to emphasize to each of you that all of the Department's leadership is grateful for the work you do every day to enforce our Nation's laws and to keep the American people safe. I am also mindful of the real challenges this shutdown places on you and your families. These challenges will become even greater as most DOJ employees will not receive a paycheck deposit on their usual payday.

I continue to hope that this situation will be resolved quickly. In the meantime, I and others in Department leadership will make every effort to keep you informed of pertinent information as it develops over the days ahead. For example, I encourage you to review Lee Loftus's recent e-mail entitled "Lapse of Appropriations Update No. 4 - Special Information for All Employees," which describes resources that are available to federal employees and contractors during this period.

Regardless of whether you are on furlough or working in an excepted status, your work at the Department is important to the security and prosperity of this country, and the contributions you make every day are appreciated. Only a few Department employees are ever recognized in the press or other venues for their achievements. But my brief tenure in this current role has confirmed for me what I already knew to be true: the Department is full of extremely talented, highly principled public servants dedicated to upholding our great Constitution and the laws of the United States.

It is a privilege to serve with you. Thank you for what you do.

Sincerely,

Matthew G. Whitaker
Acting Attorney General