INTEGRATED DIGITAL EXPERIENCE ACT PROGRESS REPORT

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June 2021

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June 4, 2021

The Honorable Shalanda Young Acting Director Office of Management and Budget 725 17th Street, NW Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Young:

I am pleased to transmit to you the Integrated Digital Experience Act Progress Report for the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE), in accordance with the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (Public Law 115-336).

If you require additional information or have questions regarding the report, please contact OGE's Chief of Staff, Shelley K. Finlayson, at 202-482-9314.

Emory A. Rounds, III Director

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Enclosure

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Background

In accordance with the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (Public Law 115-336) (the Act), the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) has prepared this publicly available progress report to be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget.

Per section 3(d) of the Act, the report details OGE's progress in implementing section 3 of the Act and will be made publicly available on OGE's website.

Most Important Websites and Digital Services for Public Engagement

OGE's website, <u>www.oge.gov</u>, is its main communication tool and most important resource for OGE's stakeholders, including the media and the general public. In fiscal year 2020, OGE launched a completely redesigned website which focuses on improving public access to ethics documents and compliance with new standards. OGE sought feedback from the public and other stakeholders in fiscal year 2019, and based on that feedback, prioritized improving the site's design and search functions.

Notable Improvements and Features

• Developed new navigation organized by user group (ethics officials, citizens/press, and federal employees).



- Streamlined the number of web pages to help users more quickly access the content they are seeking.
- Created three new document collections with significantly enhanced search and filters: (1) Legal Research (2) Individuals' Disclosures (3) Ethics Program Documents.

These document collections bring together previously disparate content into tables with advanced search capacities and filters that will enable users to more quickly find the information they seek and to gain new insights. For example, users can now sort each collection chronologically or filter for a particular agency or by document type.

• OGE added valuable new content. For example, OGE created a set of wholly new web pages that serve as a comprehensive guide to support ethics officials in managing effective ethics programs based on each program element.

Finally, in addition to these notable improvements to usability and content, OGE also worked to bring its website into compliance with accessibility, design, security, data,

customization, and mobile requirements.

To date, OGE continues to refine its website to facilitate and maximize public engagement.

<u>Prioritized Subset of Websites and Digital Services that Require Modernization to Meet the</u> <u>Eight Elements Described in Section 3(a) of the Act</u>

To the greatest extent practicable, OGE has and continues to ensure that each redesigned section, form, application or digital service on OGE's website:

- (1) is accessible to individuals with disabilities in accordance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d);
- (2) has a consistent appearance;

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- (3) does not overlap with or duplicate any legacy websites and, if applicable, ensures that legacy websites are regularly reviewed, eliminated, and consolidated;
- (4) contains a search function that allows users to easily search content intended for public use;
- (5) is provided through an industry standard secure connection;
- (6) is designed around user needs with data-driven analysis influencing management and development decisions, using qualitative and quantitative data to determine user goals, needs, and behaviors, and continually test the website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service to ensure that user needs are addressed;
- (7) provides users of the new or redesigned website, web-based form, web-based application, or digital service with the option for a more customized digital experience that allows users to complete digital transactions in an efficient and accurate manner; and
- (8) is fully functional and usable on common mobile devices.

OGE is also taking these standards into consideration for modernization and redesign projects that are currently underway. Specifically, OGE seeks to ensure compliance with these standards to the greatest extent practicable as it makes improvements to its Institute for Ethics in Government, a digital portal that makes education materials for ethics officials available to the public. Moreover, pursuant to section 3(c) of the Act, OGE is working to ensure compliance with these standards to the greatest extent practicable while modernizing its intranet.