

Date: February 13, 2018 at 2:53:55 PM EST

To: OGC National Ethics Officials <OGC_National_Ethics_Officials@epa.gov>

Subject: ETHICS Advice -- Recent Survey

Good Afternoon,

OGC/Ethics has heard from many of you regarding two recent survey requests, one aimed at federal scientists across the executive branch and one aimed at federal employees with FOIA responsibilities. EPA employees are wondering if they may take these surveys, and if so, whether the surveys must be completed in their personal or official capacities. In both cases, employees MAY participate in their personal capacities. A more detailed analysis of the applicable rules to each email is contained below.

These survey requests pop up periodically (In fact, we sent our last note about surveys just last summer!). We hope it is helpful to take these opportunities to remind everyone of the applicable rules. For your convenience, here is some brief advice you can share with your colleagues, based largely on responses prepared by some of our regional ethics officials over the last week or so (and also reflective of the advice on our OGC/Ethics Intranet page). Many thanks to the regional ethics officials who have already provided swift advice to their regional colleagues.

Let us know if you have any questions or if we can help you further. Thank you!

1. EMAIL: Iowa State University Center for Survey Statistics and Methodology and the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)

This email survey is aimed at federal scientists from a large number of federal agencies across the executive branch. It provides a number of ways to complete the survey, including by hyperlink, by visiti