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SUSAN M. WEBMAN APPOINTED AS DIRECTOR OF MSPB OFFICE OF APPEALS COUNSEL

Beth S. Slavet, Acting Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), has announced the appointment of Susan M. Webman as Director, Office of Appeals Counsel (OAC). In her new position, Ms. Webman will oversee legal analysis and preparation of proposed decisions in matters adjudicated by the 3-member Board at its Washington, DC, headquarters. As Director, OAC, she will also be responsible for conducting the Board's petition for review settlement program, making recommendations on reopening cases on the Board's own motion, and providing research and policy memoranda to the Board on various legal issues. She will supervise a staff of almost 40 employees, principally attorneys.

"We are extremely fortunate to have found an attorney with Ms. Webman's in-depth experience and understanding of the complex issues of Federal employment for this critical executive level position," said Acting Chairman Slavet. "We look forward to working with her as we continue our efforts to make even more improvements to our case processing at headquarters." Ms. Webman is the first career appointee to fill the position of Director, OAC, since 1982. In the intervening years, the position was a political appointment made by the Chairman. Ms. Slavet converted the position to career after she became Acting Chairman in March 2000.

Ms. Webman has held positions of increasing responsibility in the Office of the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of Labor. Since 1986, she has served as Counsel for International Affairs/Opinions, managing all legal work relating to veterans' reemployment rights and transit employee protections and was counsel to DOL at Congressional hearings. She also handled certain International Labor Organization litigation and issues for the U. S. Government. From 1984 to 1986, Ms. Webman was Assistant Counsel for Litigation, Labor-Management Laws, and from 1978 to 1984, she was an attorney in the Division of Labor-Management Laws.

Ms. Webman graduated magna cum laude from the University of Massachusetts in 1975 and received her Juris Doctor degree from Boston College Law School in 1978. She is licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the District of Columbia.

The Board is an independent, quasi-judicial agency with responsibility for deciding Federal employee appeals from personnel actions taken against them and for protecting the integrity of the civil service and other Federal merit systems. The Board also conducts studies of the civil service and other merit systems and reviews significant actions of the Office of Personnel Management.

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