Department of Veterans Affairs

Date: January 30, 2012

From: Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness (007)

Subj: Rescind -Contractor:Background Investigation Requirements (VAIQ# 7197700)

To: Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, and Other Key Officials

1. This memo rescinds Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness Memoranda dated June 8, 2011 and August 9, 2011, describing the contractor background investigation requirements.

2. Current VA policies do not require a full background investigation be initiated or completed by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) before the contractor is granted access to VA facilities or VA Information Technology resources (network).

3. Current VA policies do require a contractor have the following before unescorted access may be granted to VA facilities and/or access to VA Information Technology resources (network and/or protected data):

    a. A favorably adjudicated Special Agreement Check (SAC) or "Closed, No Issues" SAC fingerprint results;

    b. Training delineated in VA Handbook 6500.6 (Appendix C. Section 9), and,

    c. Signed "Contractor Rules of Behavior."

4. A contractor may be sponsored for a Personal Identity Verification (PIV) card upon confirmation that the appropriate level of background investigation for the position risk and sensitivity level has been scheduled by OPM.

5. Please address questions regarding this memorandum to Tom Muir, Director, Personnel Security and Identity Management at 202-461-7531 or by email at Thomas.Muir@va.gov.

Jose D. Riojas

cc: Deputy Secretary (001)
    Chief of Staff (00A)