



## Office of the Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

April 6, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EMPLOYEES

FROM: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Holder".

SUBJECT: Potential Lapse in Government Funding

Throughout the discussions about funding for the rest of the fiscal year, the President has made it clear that he does not want a government shutdown, and the Administration is willing and ready to work day and night to find a solution with which all sides can agree. Given the realities of the calendar, however, prudent management requires that we plan for an orderly shutdown should Congress be unable to pass a funding bill.

The President and I know that the uncertainty of the current situation puts Federal employees in a difficult position, and are very much aware that a shutdown would impose hardships on many employees as well as the groups and individuals the Department serves. As we approach the expiration of the current CR, we will provide you with updated information as soon as it becomes available. For now, I want to provide you with information on how the potential shutdown -- should it occur -- will impact Federal employees.

As soon as funding lapses, Federal departments and agencies will not be permitted to incur further financial obligations performing activities funded by annual appropriations, except those related to the orderly suspension of operations or performance of excepted activities. This means that some employees will be furloughed and unable to work. Our contingency planning for the potential funding lapse includes determining which agency functions are excepted from a furlough. Should it become necessary to implement our contingency plans, you will receive notice from your manager no later than Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the designation of your position and status.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has created a document to address some of the questions that I know must be on your mind. The document can be accessed at [www.opm.gov/furlough2011](http://www.opm.gov/furlough2011). OPM will provide additional pertinent information for Federal employees as the week progresses. We will do our very best to provide clear information about the status of events as the week progresses.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of all of you, the Department of Justice provides critical services to the American public. Your contributions touch people's lives in so many significant ways, and I want you to know how deeply I appreciate your dedication, your expertise, and your commitment to the Justice mission. Thank you for your continued service to the Department and the Nation.