



Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation

November 24, 2004

TO: Ed Roback, Chief
NIST Computer Security Division

FROM: Judi Shellenberger, Executive Director
Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation

SUBJECT: Personal Identification Verification for Federal Employees

I have several questions regarding the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, *Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees*.

The Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation is a very small government agency. I am the only full-time employee and I have a part-time assistant. The Foundation is located in Auburn, New York, not Washington, D.C. so I am not able to attend meetings relative to the Directive. The Foundation's office is located in a public office building, not a government building.

My questions are as follows:

- 1) Is it imperative for me to get this new ID card? Does my assistant have to get one? If yes, how will we do this since we are located in New York?
- 2) The Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, and the members are from around the country. Does each Board member have to get an ID card? The Board does not meet in the Foundation office, but rather at venues around the country. Each Board member presently has an ID card issued by the General Services Administration.
- 3) Is the Foundation expected to purchase software and hardware that has to interface with the card?
- 4) How will GSA, the Foundation's service provider, make available secure remote access to its systems?

I would greatly appreciate your response to these questions.