Dear Veteran,

On Monday, November 11, 2013, our Nation will honor each of you, America's veterans, who have served so faithfully and honorably. We will pause to remember the sacrifices our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen have made in serving our Nation where and when they were needed. Veterans Day is more than a holiday; it is a day of heartfelt appreciation to all who have served our great country in the Armed Forces.

In his Veterans Day Proclamation, President Obama has been clear:

Under the most demanding of circumstances and in the most dangerous corners of the earth, America's veterans have served with distinction. With courage, self-sacrifice, and devotion to our Nation and to one another, they represent the American character at its best. On Veterans Day and every day, we celebrate their immeasurable contributions, draw inspiration from their example, and renew our commitment to showing them the fullest support of a grateful Nation.

For the full text of the Proclamation, click here: http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press office/2013/11/05/presidential-proclamation-veterans-day-2013.

One way we at OPM honor our Nation's promises is by making Federal civilian employment opportunities available when our servicemen and women lay their uniforms down. This is not only a matter of honor; the courage, integrity, and determination that you displayed in the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard make you ideal candidates for Federal Service. Every American benefits from retaining the dedication, leadership, skills, and abilities veterans have honed in the fast-paced, dynamic environments of our armed services.

And, in the words of John F. Kennedy, " As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

It has been four years since President Obama established the Veterans Employment Initiative, and OPM continues to lead the charge to honor and appreciate your service by ensuring that you have the opportunity to continue your service to this great Nation as Federal civilian employees.

On behalf of our Nation and its people, I thank you for your service – past, present, and future.

With gratitude, pride, and remembrance,

Katherine Archuleta
Director, U.S. Office of Personnel Management