



Office of  
Communications

## UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

November 6, 2015

### MEMORANDUM FOR CBS NEWS

FROM: U.S. Office of Personnel Management

SUBJECT: Background Investigations Inquiry Response

Protecting the nation's people, facilities, and information is a core national security objective. We take seriously our mission to provide critical information to the decision makers throughout the Government who ultimately determine who is granted a security clearance.

In consultation with our federal agency partners, we have taken multiple steps over the past several years to enhance and strengthen the Government's security clearance system. We are working aggressively to incorporate new data sources and to transform investigation methods from presenting a "snapshot in time" to providing continuous assessments of behavior in real time, while protecting privacy and civil liberties.

OPM and its federal agency partners are currently reviewing key aspects of the security clearance process, building upon steps the Administration has taken to improve security clearance processes following the tragedy at the Navy Yard. In short, change is underway and more is coming.

We will continue to work with our partners across all levels of government, in the private sector, and the public, to help us collect the accurate and complete information the Federal Government needs to make informed hiring and access decisions.