MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: JOHN BERRY *(signature: John Berry)*
           DIRECTOR

Subject: 2011 Service to America Medals

Earlier this fall, I had the pleasure of participating in the 2010 *Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals* (*Sammies*) gala where I helped recognize 32 remarkable individuals and teams from our nation's talented and dedicated federal workforce. I eagerly anticipate the tenth annual *Sammies* next year and invite you to join me in identifying the best and brightest in your agency for this uplifting and inspiring celebration.

The *Sammies* are presented by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to outstanding federal employees who have made significant contributions to our country. In contrast to the frequent news stories that focus on the size and shortcomings of government, the *Sammies* stories highlight the creativity and determination that public servants bring to bear in delivering solutions to our nation's greatest challenges.

During the past nine years, the Partnership has honored more than 270 exemplary individuals and teams from dozens of federal agencies. By honoring excellence in the federal workforce and sharing these stories with the America people, the awards shine a spotlight on the positive difference public servants make in the lives of others and help inspire a new generation to serve.

The Partnership is accepting nominations online at www.servicetoamericamedals.org through January 31. Here you'll find complete details about the program, including eligibility requirements and profiles of past honorees.

Thank you for allowing me to share with you my own experience and let you know about this worthwhile opportunity to celebrate the many unsung heroes in our civil service. As a participant in this year's gala, I can attest to the caliber of the awards and the people they recognize.

cc: Chief Human Capital Officers
     Human Resources Directors