



## PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

OURPUBLICSERVICE.ORG

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\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** January 26, 2018

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### **THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND DELOITTE CELEBRATE THE 2017 BEST PLACES TO WORK IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

**WASHINGTON** – On Friday January 26, the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service and Deloitte will honor the top and the most improved federal agencies included in the 2017 *Best Places to Work in the Federal Government*® rankings as well as the organizations that have made significant and consistent improvements in employee engagement over time.

“The 2017 *Best Places to Work* results represent the largest single-year increase in federal employee engagement in the history of the rankings,” said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership. “The agencies that had the highest levels of employee engagement in 2017 and those that made the biggest improvements deserve recognition for fostering positive work environments.”

Stier continued: “The threat of a prolonged government shutdown was a reminder of the important work being done by our federal workforce and the vital services they provide to the American people. Especially following the brief but unsettling disruption of federal services, improving employee engagement will require an even stronger commitment from the Trump administration and leaders across government.”

Instead of gauging federal employee happiness, the *Best Places to Work* rankings measure how federal employees view their jobs and workplaces, providing their perspective on issues like leadership, pay, innovation and work-life balance.

“Rather than a happiness index, employee engagement is used as a productivity measurement,” said Stier. “And strengthening employee engagement is not a partisan issue, but an issue of good government and good management.”

**What:** An awards breakfast to celebrate the top-ranked and most improved agencies in the 2017 *Best Places to Work* rankings as well as the organizations that have made significant and consistent improvements in employee engagement over time.

**When:** Friday, January 26, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (8:30 a.m., registration)

**Where:** Partnership for Public Service, 1100 New York Ave, NW, Suite 200 East, Washington, D.C.

**Who:** Representatives from the top agencies and the most improved agencies in the 2017 *Best Places to Work* rankings as well as the organizations that have made improvements in employee engagement over time.

Distinguished guests include:

- Elaine Duke, deputy secretary, Department of Homeland Security
- Susan Gordon, principal deputy director, National Intelligence
- Bryan Slater, assistant secretary of administration and management, Department of Labor
- Kody Kinsley, assistant secretary for management, Department of the Treasury
- Keith Nelson, assistant secretary for administration, Department of Transportation
- Lieutenant General James H. Dickinson, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, Department of Defense
- Michael Lewis, best-selling author
- Sean Morris, principal and federal human capital leader, Deloitte Consulting LLP
- Max Stier, president and CEO, Partnership for Public Service

Organizations being recognized:

- **Subcomponents**
  - Top five subcomponents:
    1. Office of the General Counsel for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
    2. Office of the Inspector General for the Tennessee Valley Authority
    3. Office of Support Operations for the Securities and Exchange Commission
    4. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau at the Department of Treasury
    5. Office of Financial Management at the Securities and Exchange Commission
  - Most improved subcomponent: U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command / U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command
  - Most improved subcomponent over five years: Economic Development Administration at the Department of Commerce
- **Small agencies**
  - Top five small agencies:
    1. Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service
    2. U.S. International Trade Commission
    3. National Endowment for the Arts (tie)
    3. Farm Credit Administration (tie)
    5. Overseas Private Investment Corporation
  - Most improved small agency: Millennium Challenge Corporation
  - Most improved small agency over five years: Federal Maritime Commission
- **Mid-size agencies**
  - Top five mid-size agencies:
    1. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
    2. Government Accountability Office
    3. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

- 4. Federal Trade Commission
- 5. Securities and Exchange Commission
- Most improved mid-size agency: National Labor Relations Board
- Most improved mid-size agency over five years: Securities and Exchange Commission
- **Large agencies**
  - Top five large agencies:
    1. NASA
    2. Department of Health and Human Services
    3. Department of Commerce
    4. Department of Transportation
    5. Intelligence Community
  - Most improved large agency: Department of Homeland Security
  - Most improved large agency over five years: Department of Labor

The 2017 rankings now include 410 federal agencies and their subcomponents, which is the most organizations included in the history of the *Best Places to Work* rankings. The revised rankings are attached and will be available at [bestplacestowork.org](http://bestplacestowork.org) when the embargo lifts at 6:00 p.m. on January 25.

“You cannot change what you cannot measure, and the *Best Places to Work* data is a powerful tools that help agencies assess employee engagement,” said Stier. “These rankings allow agencies to see how they measure up, and help Congress and the administration provide more comprehensive oversight of federal workforce management.”

While employee engagement has improved across the federal government, it still trails behind the private sector. According to data provided by the employee research firm [Mercer | Sirota](http://Mercer|Sirota), the 2017 employee engagement score for private sector employees is 77.8 out of 100, representing a 16.3-point gap with the federal government. Only 12 federal agencies scored above the private sector average this year. More comparative analysis of the government and private sector can be found here: [bestplacestowork.org/BPTW/analysis/](http://bestplacestowork.org/BPTW/analysis/).

“When comparing the government to the private sector, we must see greater progress,” said Stier. “The government competes with the private sector for the best talent, and the federal leaders should endeavor to meet or exceed employee engagement levels seen in the best private sector companies.”

The *Best Places to Work in the Federal Government*® rankings offer the most comprehensive assessment of how federal public servants view their jobs and workplaces, providing insights into employee engagement on issues ranging from leadership and pay to innovation and work-life balance. Employee engagement refers to the satisfaction and commitment of the workforce and the willingness of employees to put forth discretionary effort to achieve results.

During the past 17 years, the nonpartisan, nonprofit **Partnership for Public Service** has been dedicated to making the federal government more effective for the American people. We work

across administrations to help transform the way government operates by increasing collaboration, accountability, efficiency and innovation. Visit [ourpublicservice.org](http://ourpublicservice.org) to learn more.

**Deloitte** provides industry-leading audit, consulting, tax and advisory services to many of the world's most admired brands, including more than 85 percent of the Fortune 500 and more than 6,000 private and middle market companies. Our people work across more than 20 industry sectors to make an impact that matters — delivering measurable and lasting results that help reinforce public trust in our capital markets, inspire clients to see challenges as opportunities to transform and thrive, and help lead the way toward a stronger economy and a healthy society. Deloitte is proud to be part of the largest global professional services network serving our clients in the markets that are most important to them. In the federal government space, more than 7,350 Deloitte professionals are dedicated to serving U.S. federal clients with wide-ranging missions. Deloitte applies a mix of private-sector insights and public-sector experience to work with federal agencies to rethink, reduce and restructure — from day-to-day operations to large-scale transformations.

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