

**Status of Observations From Audit #2 Report (April 2019)**

This section describes the actions DOT&PF has taken (or is taking) in response to observations made during the second audit.

*Observation #1: Applicability of Existing Interagency Agreements*

Section 5.1.3 of the MOU required the DOT&PF to work with FHWA and the resource agencies to modify existing interagency agreements within 6 months of the effective date of the MOU. During Audit 2, the audit team determined that none of DOT&PF's existing agreements applied to the current NEPA Assignment Program under 23 U.S.C. 327. According to the January 2020 Self-Assessment Report, "DOT&PF is not currently pursuing agency agreements per Section 5.1.4 of the MOU regarding appropriate processes and procedures."

*Observation #2: DOT&PF Delegation of Authority for NEPA Approvals*

Section 3.3.1 of the MOU requires DOT&PF to make NEPA approvals (CE determinations, findings of no significant impact, or records of decision). Audit 2 revealed inconsistencies regarding the delegation of NEPA approvals within DOT&PF. The DOT&PF's January 2020 Self-Assessment states that DOT&PF will incorporate a protocol that standardizes the delegation authority for NEPA approval in the regions in the February 2020 update of its EPM. The DOT&PF has not made any changes to the EPM since February 2018 per the DOT&PF's response to Audit 3's Pre-Audit Information Request. In interviews conducted as part of Audit 3, DOT&PF relayed plans to incorporate this protocol into the EPM in May 2020. Currently, each region has its own delegation process. Generally, DOT&PF delegates NEPA approvals to the senior staff and communicates that delegation via email to affected parties. Most staff interviewed understand their region's delegation process and new staff are becoming oriented with the process.

*Observation #3: Staff Capacity*

Sections 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 of the MOU outline the requirements for the State's commitment of resources and adequate organizational staff capacity. Moderate to high staff turnover has been a recurring issue since the MOU went into effect (Audit #1 report Observation #3 and Audit #2 report Observation #3). According to the January 2020 Self-Assessment Report, "DOT&PF's staffing levels were a concern during this audit period and senior staff expended considerable effort to hire new qualified

staff and to retain current staff. As a result of this effort, the regional offices are now fully or near fully staffed." DOT&PF is aware of the issue and continues to track staffing impacts on the NEPA Assignment Program through the QA/QC process.

*Observation #4: Documentation of Environmental Commitments*

Section 5.1.1 of the MOU requires the State to follow Federal laws, regulations, policies, and procedures to implement the responsibilities assumed. Audit 2 revealed inconsistencies regarding how DOT&PF was documenting environmental commitments and making sure that DOT&PF carries the environmental commitments through the project development process and into construction. The DOT&PF developed written guidance on the documentation of environmental commitments. According to the January 2020 Self-Assessment Report, the guidance was implemented on May 5, 2019. Based on the interviews conducted as part of Audit 3, DOT&PF staff understood who certified that the environmental commitments were included in the plan, specifications, and estimates, as well as their role in the certification process.

*Observation #5: Inconsistency in Project Termini and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*

Section 3.3.1 of the MOU requires DOT&PF, at the time of NEPA approval (CE determination, finding of no significant impact, or record of decision), to ensure that the project's design concept, scope, and funding is consistent with current planning documents. During Audit 2, the audit team found one project file with an inconsistency between project termini shown in a project plan and that described in the STIP, and similar inconsistencies in the DOT&PF's Audit 2 Self-assessment. Project scope inconsistencies were not found by the file review team during Audit 3. The DOT&PF's Audit 3 Self-assessment identified one instance of a project description discrepancy that did not affect the scope of the project. Regional QC efforts appear to have improved this issue, although DOT&PF noted in their self-assessment that using the STIP project description as the project scope in environmental documents is not possible for all projects.

*Observation #6: Training Plan Update*

Section 12.2 of the MOU commits DOT&PF and FHWA to update the DOT&PF training plan annually in

consultation with other Federal Agencies as appropriate. The DOT&PF did not update its Training Plan prior to or during the Audit 2 process. In their response to the Audit 3 PAIR, DOT&PF stated "the training plan was updated on October 29, 2019, with minor revisions to Section 5. A list of proposed training has been added to this section and the RD&T2 [Research, Development, and Technology Transfer], FHWA, and Prior Training Requests subsections have been removed." Based on the information gathered through the PAIR and interviews, the audit team is satisfied that the DOT&PF addressed the training observation from the second audit. Moving forward, DOT&PF committed to coordinating with the FHWA Alaska Division Office and other Federal Agencies, as appropriate, for the future annual updates of the training plan.

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY****Office of Foreign Assets Control****Notice of OFAC Sanctions Actions**

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) based on OFAC's determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for effective date(s).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** OFAC: Andrea Gacki, Director, tel.: 202-622-2490; Associate Director for Global Targeting, tel.: 202-622-2420; Assistant Director for Licensing, tel.: 202-622-2480; Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, tel.: 202-622-4855; or the Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, tel.: 202-622-2490.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Electronic Availability**

The Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions

programs are available on OFAC's website (<https://www.treasury.gov/ofac>).

#### Notice of OFAC Actions

On February 10, 2022, OFAC determined that the property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the following persons are blocked under the relevant sanctions authority listed below.

#### Individuals

1. VALDEZ RUIZ, Miguel Angel (a.k.a. VALDEZ CAJAMARCA, Miguel Eduardo), Priv. Bosques de los Olivos 349, Lomas de San Isidro, Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico; DOB 19 Oct 1988; POB Sinaloa, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; C.U.R.P.

VARM881019HSLZG05 (Mexico) (individual) [ILLICIT-DRUGS-E.O.]. Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of Executive Order 14059 of December 15, 2021, "Imposing Sanctions on Foreign Persons Involved in the Global Illicit Drug Trade," (the "Order"), for having engaged in, or attempted to engage in, activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materially contributing to, the international proliferation of illicit drugs or their means of production.

2. SANCHEZ FARFAN, Wilder Emilio (a.k.a. "GATO"), Estancias Del Rio No. 16, MZ Sur, Tarqui, Guayaquil, Guayas, Ecuador; DOB 27 Sep 1980; POB Chacras, Arenillas, El Oro, Ecuador; nationality Ecuador; citizen Ecuador; Gender Male; Cedula No. 2100326350 (Ecuador) (individual) [ILLICIT-DRUGS-E.O.].

Sanctioned pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of the Order for having engaged in, or attempted to engage in, activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materially contributing to, the international proliferation of illicit drugs or their means of production.

Dated: February 10, 2022.

**Andrea M. Gacki,**

*Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control,  
U.S. Department of the Treasury.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

#### Veterans' Family, Caregiver and Survivor Advisory Committee, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2, that the Veterans' Family,

Caregiver, and Survivor Advisory Committee will meet virtually on March 29, 2022. The meeting session will begin and end as follows:

Date:	Time:
March 29, 2022 .....	12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST.

The meeting is open to the public and will be conducted using Microsoft Teams. Please email [VEOFACA@va.gov](mailto:VEOFACA@va.gov) for an invitation link prior to March 28, 2022 or dial-in by phone (for audio only) 1-872-701-0185, United States, Chicago (Toll), Conference ID: 159879334#.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on matters related to: The need of Veterans' families, caregivers and survivors across all generations, relationships and Veterans status; the use of VA care, benefits and memorial services by Veterans' families, caregivers and survivors, and opportunities for improvements to the experience using such services; VA policies, regulations and administrative requirements related to the transition of Servicemembers from the Department of Defense (DoD) to enrollment in VA that impact Veterans' families, caregivers and survivors; and factors that influence access to, quality of and accountability for services, benefits and memorial services for Veterans' families, caregivers and survivors.

On March 29, 2022, the agenda will include opening remarks from the Committee Chair and the Chief Veterans Experience Officer. There will be presentations on the responses to the recommendations submitted by the Committee and briefings to include updates from the Caregiver Support Program.

Individuals wishing to share information with the Committee should contact the VEO Federal Advisory Committee Team at [VEOFACA@va.gov](mailto:VEOFACA@va.gov) to submit a 1-2 page summary of their comments for inclusion in the official meeting record before March 28, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. (EST). Due to the time limitations of virtual meetings, public comments will be submitted prior to the meeting and distributed to the Committee before the designated meeting time on March 29, 2022.

Any member of the public seeking additional information should contact Betty Moseley Brown (Designated Federal Official) [Betty.MoseleyBrown@va.gov](mailto:Betty.MoseleyBrown@va.gov) or 210-392-2505.

Dated: February 10, 2022.

**Jelessa M. Burney,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

#### Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., App. 2., that virtual meetings of the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans will be held on April 5-April 6, 2022. The meeting sessions will begin and end at 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). The meeting sessions will be open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with an ongoing assessment of the effectiveness of the policies, organizational structure and services of VA in assisting Veterans at risk of and experiencing homelessness. The Committee shall assemble, and review information related to the needs of homeless Veterans and provide advice on the most appropriate means of assisting this Veteran population. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

The agenda for all sessions will include briefings from VA and other Federal agency officials regarding services for homelessness among Veterans. The Committee will also discuss its annual report and recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

No time will be allocated at the meetings for receiving oral presentations from the public. Interested parties should provide written comments on issues affecting homeless Veterans for review by the Committee to Leisa Davis, Designated Federal Officer, Veterans Health Administration Homeless Programs Office (11HPO), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 811 Vermont Avenue NW (11HPO), Washington, DC 20420, or via email at [Leisa.Davis@va.gov](mailto:Leisa.Davis@va.gov) and [achv@va.gov](mailto:achv@va.gov).

Members of the public who wish to attend should contact Leisa Davis of the Veterans Health Administration, Homeless Programs Office, at [Leisa.Davis@va.gov](mailto:Leisa.Davis@va.gov) and [achv@va.gov](mailto:achv@va.gov) or 202-632-8588 no later than March 25, 2022, providing their name, professional affiliation, email address, and phone number. Attendees who require