

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT  
INVESTIGATIONS SERVICE (OPM-IS)  
AND  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS**

This agreement delegates investigative authority from the Office of Personnel Management Investigations Service (OPM-IS) to the BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS (hereafter referred to as Agency), and describes the conditions of this delegation. Authority devolves from Section 8(b) of Executive Order 10450 and from 5 CFR Section 736.201(b).

OPM-IS delegates to the Agency the authority to conduct personnel security and suitability background investigations, update investigations, and periodic reinvestigations on applicants for, or employees in, competitive service positions.

1 The Agency is authorized to use contract investigators and its own investigators who are Federal employees to conduct background investigations under this delegation. Agency will ensure that those individuals conducting investigations under this delegation are properly qualified, trained, and meet the standards of conduct contained in OPM guidelines. Agency will monitor the conduct of these investigations and will implement an Investigator integrity follow-up program.

2 Agency will verify that the investigative requirements on each Investigator performing under this delegation have been met, will conduct or cause to be conducted any new investigations or reinvestigations that are needed, obtain any investigations that have been conducted by other Federal agencies, and adjudicate all investigations of Investigators performing under this delegation.

3 Agency must certify that each Investigator performing under this delegation is screened by an investigation that meets no less than OPM's current SSBI Critical-Sensitive investigative requirements. Contract Investigators performing investigative duties are required to meet the same level of background screening and rescreening as Federal employees. All investigated Investigators performing under this delegation must have favorably adjudicated periodic reinvestigations, the scope and frequency of which meet the current OPM SSBI reinvestigation requirements.

- a *Investigators initially investigated before October 21, 1991, with a Background Investigation (BI) or Special Background Investigation (SBI), must have had a favorably adjudicated update investigation conducted within five years preceding their performing under this delegation.*
- b *Investigators initially investigated after October 21, 1991, and more than five years preceding their performing under this delegation, with an SBI meeting the standards of National Security Directive 63, must have had a favorably adjudicated update investigation within five years preceding their performing under this delegation.*