SUBJECT: DOL Open Source Software (OSS) Policy

1. <u>Purpose.</u> The purpose of this policy is to establish the Department of Labor's (DOL) policy on sharing code developed by DOL personnel and contractors and also to communicate responsibilities to the organization for compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) open source acquisition policy. Specifically, the policy includes the following:

   - A rationale for implementing open source code produced by/for the agency; and

   - The incorporation of M-16-21, OMB's Federal Source Code Policy: Achieving Efficiency, Transparency, and Innovation through Reusable and Open Source Software requirements.

2. <u>Background.</u> DOL has embarked on the IT Modernization initiative which is working toward enhancing existing technology infrastructure and providing new technology capabilities to improve agency mission performance. As part of this effort the Technology and Innovation Forum (TIF), chaired by the Department's CTO, was created to guide IT innovation and oversee the Department's assessment, evaluation and deployment of innovative technologies to improve business performance, maximize value and promote standardization. The TIF identified a need to create a Target Architecture and Strategic Roadmap (TASR) for the Department which further highlights the need to standardize Source Code Management processes. Around the same time, OMB published the Federal Source Code Policy, M-16-21. This added importance to creating a Department level process for documenting and inventorying code developed by DOL personnel and contractors.

3. <u>Applicability.</u> This policy applies to all Information Technology and Acquisitions professional within OASAM and the Agencies.

4. <u>Policy.</u> This policy requires DOL organizations to account for and publish their open source code in accordance with OMB M-16-21 including:

   - A new baseline of software development and acquisition that supports an open source approach as it promotes DOL IT's vision goal of "Being Open;"; A posture of being "open first" and requiring justification for new custom code that will not be opened.

   - Contracts that must follow OMB's three-step software analysis outlined in M-16-21 and include contract requirements for open source code requirements when applicable. Contracts for custom development of software must also acquire and enforce rights sufficient to enable Government-wide reuse of custom-developed code.

- A publication process that will facilitate continuous updates to DOL's source code inventory. This process will include the creation of a metadata file in each project's source code repository if the repository is found on www.github.com/USDepartmentofLabor. This metadata file will contain information about the project that can be included in DOL's code inventory.

5. <u>Compliance.</u> DOL will support fully Federal Source Code Policy M-16-21 by sharing agency-produced source code and by using software from the government inventory as a preferable option when it is appropriate and cost-effective. DOL expects its employees, contactors and associates to comply with these policies and procedures and to seek guidance when necessary from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO).

6. <u>Responsibilities.</u> OCIO is responsible for the following:

- Establishing an internal policy that incorporates M16-21 requirements and publishing this policy on https://www.dol.gov/digitalstrategy/policyarchive.html;

- Being "open first" for implementation of all code with custom code not being compliant requiring justification for not being so;

- Inventorying all new code developed after August 8, 2016 using a standard JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) file format with metadata criteria established by OMB, and publishing the inventory on www.dol.gov/code.json;

- Reviewing any code that an agency submits for publication as open source and ensuring that the Federal Government has acquired sufficient rights to enable Government-wide reuse and publication of custom-developed code;

- Publishing all new open source code, barring some exceptional request. This allows DOL to both meet and exceed the policy directed 20 percent code release;

In order to complete these responsibilities:

- Agency IT POC's are responsible for supporting all data collection efforts to create a DOL source code inventory.

- Agency COR's are responsible for ensuring that the local clause language included in this directive is placed in all future contracts issued by DOL.

- Agency POC's are responsible for providing all custom developer to source code to OCIO for storage in a centralized source code repository.