

**Questions for the Record**  
**House Committee on Veterans' Affairs**  
**Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations**  
**"VA Financial Management"**

- 1. Please provide a copy of the financial management training initiative curriculum that Ms. Park referenced in her testimony. This should include, at a minimum, course titles, a summary of each course's content, whether the course is taught in person or through the internet, and information about how frequently and to whom the courses are taught.**

**VA Response:** The Financial Management Training Initiative (FMTI) offers two mandatory Financial Management Leadership Training (FMLT) events annually to VA's financial community. The Office of Management hosted an online training event in August 2016 and an in person one in January 2017. Currently, there is an online session planned for August 2017, and an in person event scheduled for January or February 2018.

Select sessions will offer Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits. The complete course offerings for all sessions are seen in attachment 1.

- 2. Please provide the most recent monthly unexpended funds report that VA submitted to the Treasury. The Subcommittee's intent is to evaluate whether the content of this report meets the Subcommittee's needs and then decide whether the report should be provided on an ongoing basis.**

**VA Response:** Please see April 2017 Unexpended Funds Report (Attachment 2.)

- 3. Please identify the accountable officials, to include at a minimum their names and offices, for each program designed as high risk for improper payments. Please explain how they are accountable, for example being assigned performance evaluation criteria that include improper payment metrics. Please also identify the formal responsibilities for overseeing improper payments detection, elimination, and recovery of the VBA, VHA, and NCA chief financial officers and any chief financial officers for major subdivisions of the three administrations.**

**VA Response:** The accountable officials and detailed information regarding their accountability and performance evaluation criteria for each program designated as a high risk for improper payments are included in Attachment 3.

Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Policy "Volume VII Financial Reporting – Erroneous and Improper Volume VII – Chapter 9 Payment Reporting under OMB Circular A – 123 Appendix C," January 2017, assigns roles and responsibilities, and requires the establishment of an accountability mechanism with appropriate incentives and consequences tied to the success of the senior officials who lead efforts to achieve improper payment compliance. The

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complete policy can be found at: <https://www.va.gov/finance/docs/VA-FinancialPolicyVolumeVIIChapter09.pdf>

Specific policy excerpts to address formal responsibilities for CFOs and other accountable officials include:

**0904 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

(pgs. 6-7 of 84) Administration and Staff Office CFOs are responsible for accurate testing, projections and reporting and must coordinate activities with OM through the IPRO Office. The Administration and Staff Office CFOs are responsible for oversight of the Senior Accountable Officials (SAOs) in their Administrations and Staff Offices to ensure that corrective action plans are created and monitored and that recapture and recovery activities are performed – all in accordance with VA policy. Administration and Staff Office CFOs in collaboration with SAOs are also responsible for providing oversight of progress made to implement supplemental measures and preparation of the request for relief from reporting high-risk programs. Administration and Staff Office CFOs in collaboration with SAOs are responsible for coordinating all data analytics activities with FSC and IPRO regarding the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015 (herein after referred to as Fraud Act) as well as identifying any fraud risk within their respective programs. Administration and Staff Office CFOs will ensure that test plans include attributes designed to identify potential fraud and ensure any risks identified during testing are properly addressed by the SAO in the program CAPs.

(pg. 7 of 84) Senior Accountable Officials (SAOs) are responsible for remediating improper payments and overseeing payment recapture audits, development and implementation of CAPs, and development of supplemental measures when the program or activity is deemed high-priority as well as quality of testing reviews. Additionally, SAOs are responsible for focusing on identifying and eliminating the highest improper payments, reducing improper payments, and coordinating Federal, State, and local government action in identifying and eliminating improper payments. SAOs are also responsible for notifying and coordinating with the IPRO Office and their Administration or Staff Office CFO on any reviews or audits that are associated with improper payments. SAOs, in conjunction with responsible Administration or Staff Office CFOs, are responsible for preparing the request for relief from reporting high-risk programs. SAOs, in collaboration with Administration and Staff Office CFOs, are responsible for coordinating all data analytics activities with FSC and IPRO regarding the Fraud Act, identifying any fraud risk within their respective programs, testing for potential fraud, and ensuring CAPs address any identified fraud risk.

090609 Improper Payment Reporting B. ii. For Noncompliant Programs (pg. 21 of 84) - The designation of a SAO, a member of the SES, who shall be accountable

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for the progress of the program coming into compliance. As such, the SAO must have the span of control necessary to affect change in the program or activity determined to be noncompliant; and the establishment of an accountability mechanism, such as a performance agreement, with appropriate incentives and consequences tied to the success of the SAO in leading efforts to achieve compliance for the program or activity. VA interprets this requirement to mean a performance measure that provides transparency into whether the measure was met and when incentives/consequences are enforced.