

CENTER FOR MEDICARE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 25, 2011

TO: All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) Sponsors, Cost-Based Contractors, and Employer/Union Sponsored Group Health Plans

FROM: Timothy P. Love
Deputy Director
Center for Medicare

SUBJECT: Center for Medicare Leadership Announcement

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Anthony Culotta, Director of the Medicare Enrollment & Appeals Group (MEAG) will be retiring from CMS at the end of this month. Tony has worked for CMS for over 33 years and played a central role in the implementation of the Medicare+Choice (now Medicare Advantage) program and the prescription drug benefit. I know that he has been an active and engaged partner to both plans and advocates, and it will be difficult to see him leave on October 31st.

Nonetheless, I am quite pleased to announce that Arrah Tabe-Bedward will serve as Acting MEAG Group Director, effective November 1, 2011. MEAG is responsible for enrollment and appeals policy and operations under Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and the Prescription Drug Benefit and works closely with the Social Security Administration on Medicare eligibility, enrollment, and low-income subsidy issues. Since joining CMS as a Presidential Management Intern in 2000, Arrah has served in several staff and leadership roles, including Director of the Division of Appeals Policy where she had oversight responsibility for a wide-range of functions related to appeals policy, operations and beneficiary protections. Most recently, she served as MEAG's Deputy Director.

At the same time, I am also pleased to inform you that Randy Brauer has agreed to serve as the Acting Deputy Director of MEAG, also effective November 1. Since joining CMS in 2002, Randy has also served in several staff and leadership roles in the Medicare managed care and prescription drug programs. Randy previously served as the Director of the Division of Prospective Payment in the Medicare Plan Payment Group, and prior to that, served as Acting Director of the Division of Enrollment and Eligibility policy in MEAG. In addition to his Federal experience over the past decade, Randy previously worked for over 12 years with Univera HealthCare in upstate New York in various capacities, including as the manager of Medicare Enrollment.